

# THE TIMES

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THE TIMES

Monday

**Cover up**  
The 30-year rule releases the records for 1953 – and a Churchill cover-up is revealed



**Round Up**  
The Times anniversaries for 1984

**Stepping up**  
First of a series on South Africa and its neighbours as the fighting steps up in Angola

**Highland...**  
Searching for clan roots among the heather  
... games

**Round up of the New Year weekend sport**

**Shultz and Gromyko will meet**

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, is to hold talks with Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, in Stockholm on January 18. They will be in Stockholm for the opening of the 35-nation conference on European security and confidence-building measures.

It will be their first meeting since they held talks in Madrid in September, shortly after the shooting down of a Korean airliner by a Soviet fighter.

**Rig talks offer**

Britain's chairman said he is willing to start talks on the cancelled oil rig order which could close British shipbuilders' Scott Lithgow yard on the Lower Clyde

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**CBI warning**

Central and local government costs imposed on industry must be reduced to sustain the recovery through 1984, Sir Terence Beckett, director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, said. Page 15

**WPC's funeral**

The funeral of WPC Jane Arbutnott, one of the six victims of the Harrods bomb, took place at St Luke's Church near Chelsea police station

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**Highlife**



**Mortgage boost**

Four of the top five building societies expect to increase their mortgage lending by at least 20 per cent next year.

Family money, page 22

**Galtieri in dock**

Former President Galtieri of Argentina and his fellow junta members who launched the Falklands invasion have been indicted for murder and torture

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**On its own**

Ninety-five years of British protection over Brunei ends at midnight tonight as the tiny enclave on Borneo's north coast assumes full independence

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**Wider protest**

Greenham Common peace women said they will extend their protest to other military bases, nuclear power plants and research stations, in the new year

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**Letters**: On Eagle Star, from Mr R C Howroyd; legal education, from his Hon Judge Head; coinage, from Mr A B Purbrick, and others

**Leading article**: The language of 1984

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Neil Kinnock sees the shadow of the Thought Police; Gavin Stamp on architects and planning controls; Julie Davidson's un-Scottish hognomay

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## Thatcher promises a year of hope and liberty

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, in a buoyant new year message to the Conservative Party yesterday, said that George Orwell was wrong and she promised that 1984 would be a year of hope and liberty.

In a statement reflecting considerable optimism about the future and clearly designed to stamp on suggestions that the Government has become accident-prone since its landslide general election victory, the Prime Minister declared: "Far from losing our way, we are just getting into our stride."

She said that the Government had embarked on its second term "with the same enthusiasm and determination" with which it came to office.

"Today, no less than when we first came into office, we believe what we say, we say what we believe, and have the courage to see it through."

Mrs Thatcher said that the prospect for jobs was becoming brighter and restated the Government's commitment to the goals it set itself in 1979 - defence of the realm, greater freedom for the individual, protection for the vulnerable, honest money and prudent

finance, and an efficient and competitive economy.

Mr Kinnock said it was a tragedy that Britain could not look forward to firm prospects of economic recovery and social advance.

There was no will in the Government, he said. It never listened to the managers who wanted to invest and sell their companies out of slump; it could not put itself in the place of a single parent with a young family to bring up.

• Mr Eric Heffer, chairman of the Labour Party, said of Mrs Thatcher's message: "She is uttering the very opposite of the truth. Under this Conservative Government liberties which have been there for generations are being taken away from local authorities."

And the legislation the Government has lined up means the destruction of yet more of our liberties. This Government has authoritarian tendencies and if it continues in this direction we shall see our freedoms slowly but surely being destroyed."

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Leading article, page 11

**Leadership rift on overtime pit ban**

By Our Labour Reporter

The solidarity of miners' leaders over the present overtime ban was breached yesterday when a member of the National Union of Mineworkers' executive called for a pithead ballot over the action.

Mr Roy Ottey, head of the pit craftsmen's power group, has written to Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the union, urging him to allow a national vote to prevent civil war in the NUM.

Mr Ottey's call came after the 40-strong North Staffordshire miners' branch voted to defy the union's overtime ban. The branch said it would take 24-hour strike action if pickets prevented miners doing their normal work from January 1.

Mr Ottey, a respected right-winger, said: "I have canvassed the opinion of other power group members who are not defying the ban, and there is a large number in favour of a ballot".

The National Coal Board has said that the eight-week overtime ban, which was ordered by a national delegations' meeting, lost miners more than £25m in wages by Christmas; the equivalent of about £164 for every pitman. Those figures are strongly disputed by Mr Scargill.

Mr Stephen Higginson, the North Staffordshire miners' branch secretary, said he realized that his members' threatened strike would prevent other miners working and that it would be aimed at his own union. "But that is how strongly we feel."

The severity of the economic situation has been increased by an inflation rate of about 200 per cent and by spiralling foreign debts.

**Spy couple sentencing today**

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Sentence will be passed today in the Cape Supreme Court on Commodore Dieter Gerhardt, former commander of the South African naval dockyard at Simonstown and his wife, Ruth, who were convicted of high treason on Thursday on charges of spying for the Soviet Union.

Evidence in mitigation was heard yesterday, but like the rest of the trial, proceedings were all *in camera*. High treason carries a maximum penalty of death by hanging, but is rarely imposed in such cases.

Gerhardt was found to have been employed by the Russians from 1964 until his arrest in January of this year and to have transmitted military secrets to them. His wife was found guilty of assisting him, mainly as a

**Shamir battles for Cabinet unity in spending cuts crisis**

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Amid the worst economic crisis experienced in Israel, Mr Yitzhak Shamir's coalition Cabinet yesterday met in a six-hour emergency session to discuss a bitterly-contested austerity package which threatens to destroy its slender majority in the 120-seat Parliament.

The meeting took place against a background of unprecedented labour unrest caused by spending cuts, which have already been introduced in the public sector. Many sections of the civil service have been subjected to severe disruptions and workers have taken to the streets shouting the slogan "bread and work" reminiscent of Israel in the 1950s.

A full-scale political crisis was deferred yesterday by a decision agreed by all ministers to discuss principles only rather than specific cuts. The real crunch will come when individual ministers have to agree how much they are willing to give up.

Although yesterday's marathon session took place in a crisis atmosphere, Mr Shamir's chances of holding together his shaky coalition until the scheduled election date of 1985 were helped by a statement reportedly made by Mr Abba Eban, the chief foreign affairs spokesman of the main Labour opposition.

According to Israel radio, Mr Eban said in an interview that his party would be prepared to open negotiations over all the Arab territory conquered by Israel in 1967 in its search for peace in the Middle East. Such a gesture was judged as likely to alienate certain of the smaller coalition parties which might have been tempted to team up with Labour by crossing the floor of the Knesset (Parliament) as a result of their economic grievances.

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**Spy couple sentencing today**

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Surprised if any British naval officer had given Gerhardt any sensitive information. But it is a possibility and foolish not to look into it."

The Government said yesterday it would not refer the matter to the Security Commission. Gerhardt had access to classified information while he was training here, but it would be of little value now.

Lord Hill-Norton, speaking on BBC's *World at One*, ridiculed the suggestion that Gerhardt gave the Russians information about the task force during the Falklands conflict and said South Africa had not been privy to any British military secrets for 20 years.

Leaks feared, page 7

**Herr Fleischauer's last will and tele-testament**

From Michael Binion, Bonn

through the window behind to the heavens. He then relates how he has led a God-fearing life, in harmony with his surroundings.

And now the moment the relatives have been waiting for: To you, Cousin Gerda in Gröbenzell, the books, pictures, the contents of the bank box and a life assurance of over DM10,000. But for the aunt there is bitter disappointment.

Because she was so tactless and insensitive as to inquire recently about whom he would leave his wealth to, she has been cut out of the will.

Herr Fleischauer's will begins with the title, a notice saying "Tele-Testament" beside an urn, with a bible and kneeling figurines in front and a view

Air officers see their families at last



Air Lieutenant Weir, youngest of the released trio, being greeted at Heathrow by his sister Helen



Wing Commander Cox with his wife Sandy, and his daughter Taryn, whom he saw for the first time yesterday



Air Lieutenant Lloyd, who described his torture in jail, being welcomed by his wife, Celia, and daughter, Tina

**Lieutenant tells of nightmare months**

By Rupert Morris

One of the three Zimbabwe Air Force officers, who flew to Britain yesterday after 17 months in jail, gave a graphic account of the torture he had suffered, and its effect on him.

Air Lieutenant Barrington Lloyd, aged 32, who was welcomed at Heathrow by his wife and 18-month-old daughter - whom he hardly knew, having been imprisoned soon after she was born - shook as he recalled his ordeal.

"I suffered nightmares for a good five months," he said, "but I'm almost over it now."

He said he was tortured two weeks after his acquittal on charges of sabotage at the Zimbabwe Air Force base at Thornhill.

"I was connected to an electrical generator by electrodes placed all over my body, including the genitals. I suffered convulsions. The torture lasted about two and a half hours."

Lieutenant Lloyd said he did not blame the Zimbabwe Government for his torture, but believed it to be the result of someone being "over-enthusiastic". He was disappointed, however, that there had been no official expression of disapproval.

Four other white members of the Zimbabwe Air Force, also detained, acquitted, and re-arrested, were released last autumn.

He and his two colleagues, Wing Commander John Cox, aged 36, and Air Lieutenant Neville Weir, aged 24, who arrived at Heathrow on the same flight, face an urgent search for jobs.

All three, who hold dual British-Zimbabwean citizenship, said their lives in Zimbabwe had been destroyed.

Wing-Commander Cox, who was met by his father, the Rev William Cox, of St Mary's Church, Fishponds, Bristol, said he had gained strength from his faith, particularly during the long periods of solitary confinement.

"I was always a Christian, but I'm a stronger one now," he said. His 13-month-old daughter was born while he was in prison.

Both he and Air Lieutenant Weir said they were tortured, but declined to talk about it.

All three denied any involvement in the sabotage in August last year, when 13 combat aircraft were destroyed. They believe they were merely convenient scapegoats.

The video has no legal force,

and is no substitute for a written will. The master copy is deposited with the lawyer, and instructions can be left on viewing arrangements. Several testators have already passed into the great studio in the sky,

and Herr Schinowski has had three or four telephone calls from relatives who found his productions "tasteless".

**Life peerages for Mulley and Bottomley**

By Staff Reporters

Two former Labour Cabinet ministers who failed to get on Mr Michael Foot's final list of recommendations for the dissolution honours list last July are made life peers in the new year awards which are announced today.

Mr Frederick Mulley, Secretary of State for Defence in the last Labour Government, a former party chairman and a member of Labour's national executive committee for 20 years, and Mr Arthur Bottomley, Secretary of State for Commonwealth Affairs in the 1964 Labour Government and later Minister of Overseas Development, were recommended for the honours by the Prime Minister.

Both Mr Mulley, aged 65, and Mr Bottomley, aged 76, were in the former Labour leader's original proposals for some 27 Labour working peers in the dissolution honours but were taken out when Mrs Margaret Thatcher insisted that the Labour list be kept to single figures.

Two other life peerages are awarded today: Mr Alastair Burnet, presenter of Independent Television's *News at Ten* and a former editor of *The Economist* and the *Daily Express*, receives a knighthood.

Among the other broadcasting awards are a CBE for Mr Aubrey Singer, managing director of BBC Television and an MBE for Chris Gittins, aged 81, who plays Walter Gabriel in *The Archers*, the long-running BBC Radio 4 serial.

Mr Gordon Downey, the Comptroller and Auditor General, and Mr Peter Middleton, Permanent Secretary at the Treasury, are appointed Knights Commanders of the Order of the Bath (KCBs).

Many who played a key role in Mrs Thatcher's election victory are honoured, including Mr Christopher Lawson, the



Alastair Burnet (left) and Chris Gittins

Conservative Party's marketing director, who is knighted.

# Britoil chief ready for eleventh-hour talks on fate of North Sea rig

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Sir Philip Shelburne, chairman of Britoil, has said he is still willing to have discussions on the cancellation of its oil rig order, which threatens 4,500 jobs at Scott Lithgow on the Lower Clyde.

The Britoil chairman, knighted in today's New Year Honours, said he is prepared to meet British Shipbuilders "even at this late date".

## Talks to avert strike by shipbuilders adjourned

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Talks aimed at averting a national strike by 60,000 shipbuilding workers were adjourned yesterday until Tuesday, amid mounting pessimism that a solution could be achieved.

After a day of talks at the London offices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) in which the unions and management met in separate discussions with Mr Dennis Boyd, chief conciliation officer, there was little sign of a breakthrough.

Representatives of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions expressed disappointment that Mr Graham Day, chairman of the state-owned British Shipbuilders, was not present at yesterday's meetings and does not plan to return from holiday in Canada in time for Tuesday's talks.

Mr Maurice Phelps, head of industrial relations at British Shipbuilders, said that management had put forward some proposals which he hoped would "assist the situation" and

he has also said, however, thousands of people in the west of Scotland".

British Shipbuilders cancelled the order last week. The rig was due for delivery in the spring but is estimated to be more than 500 days behind schedule, and British Shipbuilders has said it cannot afford penalty payments.

In his reply to the churches Sir Philip said: "We have been conscious throughout this year of the effect of cancellation of our order on hull 2002 and we have used every endeavour to introduce an element of realistic negotiations into this matter."

"It must be recognized that the delays that occurred in the delivery of this order were substantial, and called for a fundamental renegotiation of the contract terms."

"We made this very clear to British Shipbuilders, who always refused to discuss such a course of action, and accordingly we had no alternative to cancellation of the order."

The union delegation saw Mr Boyd first and told him that management's plans to change working practices, which is at the heart of the dispute, would be introduced too quickly and some of them were impracticable.

Mr Boyd was told that the company's offer of a £7 a week productivity deal was not the main point at issue.

The management team told Acas officers that the new working methods, which include the sweeping away of demarcation lines and a radical increase in flexibility, were essential and needed urgently.

## Big BR pay-offs to cut staff

By Michael Bally, Transport Editor

British Rail is offering attractive terms to persuade up to 9,000 staff to retire early.

The aim is to save about £90m a year on the wages bill to help to meet a £184m cut in government subsidy over the next two years announced by Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for Transport, before Christmas.

Staff who agree to retire early are being offered full pension from 55 instead of 60 or 62 according to status and a lump sum substantially higher than the statutory minimum.

A £150-a-week driver with 25 years' service, for example would receive about £6,500 and full pension on leaving at 55.

British Rail's corporate plan provides for a reduction in staff from 155,000 to 142,000 by 1986 and Mr Bob Reid, the new chairman, is pledged to deliver the plan's targets. The severance scheme is part of the plan.

Most people who had been offered the new retirement deal have accepted it, a spokesman said. Most of those affected are clerical and similar staff.

## Maxwell sends out redundancy notices

By Kenneth Gelling

The seven-week dispute which has prevented 800,000 copies of the *Radio Times* reaching readers in London seems likely last night to continue indefinitely as redundancy notices were issued to print workers at Park Royal in west London.

A spokesman for the British Printing and Communications Corporation, of which Mr Robert Maxwell is the chairman, said no agreement had been reached before Christmas on the installation of two presses costing £10m.

"It has been known all along," he said, "that if we did not get agreement we would have to issue redundancy notices."

"Sogat '82, the National Graphical Association, everyone has known this and has been expecting the notices, some of which are being posted today."

Redundancy money is being paid at twice the usual rate, four weeks for every year of service instead of two.

A *Radio Times* spokesman said Sogat '82 had complied with a High Court injunction earlier this month to lift its blocking of the printing and

distribution of the magazine. "But we are back to square one with this dispute with Mr Maxwell," he said.

BPCC maintains that the Park Royal operation cannot be made viable without the machines being installed, and says all union branches had reached agreement except one London machine shop.

The Park Royal typesetting centre, employing 160 people, is not affected.

Mr Maxwell: No accord on £10m machines

## Remand pledge honoured

With only a day to spare Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, has honoured his pledge to remove all remand prisoners from police cells before the end of the year.

The Home Office said yesterday that all such prisoners had been transferred to jails. That means that in London there are now 629 remand prisoners at Brixton, 400 at Wormwood Scrubs and 181 at Pentonville.

Mr Brittan made his promise at the Conservative Party conference in October.

The total being held in police cells was 400 a day for most of the year but fell to 63 on Wednesday, until there was none remaining by last night.

The move was possible because Wormwood Scrubs admitted prisoners on holding charges for the first time this month and because more places became available at Pentonville.

The law will enable industrial

## Pay law still unfair, TUC says

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Equal pay legislation, which comes into force today, will not end discrimination against women, according to the TUC.

The law will not observe an edict from the European Commission which urged the Government to bring the rules into line with the rest of Europe.

The European Court of Justice had criticized Britain because women here could not claim equal pay for work of equal value.

Mr Len Murray, the TUC general secretary, has protested to Mr Alan Clark, Minister of State at the Department of Employment, that the legislation is inadequate.

The House of Lords passed an amendment to the Bill on

## Hebden holds chess lead

From Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent, Belfast

A military helicopter crew defied shots from the ground as they foiled an armed robbery on the Irish border yesterday. The two-man crew was unharmed and the Westland Gazelle helicopter undamaged.

It was escorting a Securicor armoured van as it carried money from Newry to Crossmaglen, the centre of the IRA dominated South Armagh border zone of Northern Ireland.

Two miles from Crossmaglen, at Creggan Bridge, the helicopter crew saw the armoured van being rammed by a second vehicle and forced to halt.

As the pilot of the Gazelle then moved in for a closer look, raiding for army and RUC reinforcements as he did so, the raiders opened fire with rifles, without effect.

They abandoned their attempt to force the two Securicor guards to open the armoured van, and sped off in their own vehicle for the border, about four miles away.

## Remand for arms charge student

An Oxford University student was remanded in custody until January 6 at Marylebone Magistrates' Court yesterday charged with having a revolver and ammunition without firearms certificates and unlawfully possessing explosives.

Daniel Emile Singleton, aged 18, a part-time barmaid, and Mr Rodney Fellow, a divorced farmer aged 32 who lived in Coverack, near by, were each shot twice on Tuesday in her caravan.

Det Supt Geoff Warren, head of Cornwall CID, said: "Rosalind had numerous boyfriends; inquiries into Miss Richards's social life have uncovered reports of late-night parties and marital infidelity.

More than 1,100 people in the area have shotgun licences.

## Cell suicide despite warning to jail

A remand prisoner hanged himself with a sheet in his cell despite a police warning to prison authorities that he was suicidal, an inquest at Gloucester was told yesterday. (Our Gloucester correspondent writes.)

Detective Sergeant Michael Bidell said: "When he went to prison I completed a form to the authorities at the jail stating that he was mentally unstable, and in my view he would commit suicide."

Three days after Mr Peter Fussell's admission to the hospital wing at Gloucester prison, he was found hanging by a sheet tied to the window bars.

Mr Fussell, aged 45, of The Circle, Uplands, Stroud, Gloucestershire, was on remand



Camp comforts: Greenham Common protesters keeping warm round a fire yesterday (Photograph: John Voos).

## Greenham women to tackle other bases

From David Cross, Greenham Common

The peace women of Greenham Common said yesterday they would be extending their protest movement to other military bases and installations in the new year.

The statement said that after two and a half years at Greenham the women believed they had achieved their aim of making cruise missiles at the base "politically and militarily inoperable at this time". (The Government has said that the first 16 missiles which arrived at Greenham last month would have "initial operating capability" by tonight.)

However, Miss Johnson said the Government had failed to show that the launchers and their missiles could be deployed beyond the confines of the base and had failed to maintain security at Greenham. Some women believed that the cruise warheads were no longer there. The lack of security had

ensured that they would be giving half the donations they received from well-wishers to help less privileged women throughout the world.

The Greenham women will celebrate New Year's Day by releasing into the air hundreds of balloons tied with cut-out paper women and messages of peace.

● Mrs Jacqueline Hull, aged 25, of Brook Drive, Kennington, south London, who with several other demonstrators lay down in the road Whitehall during the Remembrance Sunday ceremony on November 13, was conditionally discharged for three months at Highbury Magistrates' Court yesterday for using insulting behaviour.

Pershings ready, page 7

## Deathbed marriage by Melville

Mr Alan Melville the broadcaster who died on Christmas Eve aged 73 married his housekeeper three days earlier, it was disclosed yesterday.

In a ceremony at his bedside in the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, he married Mrs Midge Embrey, a widow in her sixties and his companion for 25 years.

Mr Paul Vaughan, Mr Melville's agent, said yesterday: "Alan knew he was dying and it was his deepest wish to marry Midge. The marriage gave him joy and peace."

The marriage ceremony was attended by doctors, nurses, immediate family and friends and was conducted under special licence by the hospital chaplain. Mrs Melville had previously worked for Gilbert Harding, the broadcaster, who died in 1960.

## Thief returned for other shoe

A pre-Christmas shoplifter, who found he had stolen two left shoes, was arrested the next day while taking a matching right shoe.

Hughie Clarke, aged 21, of Albert Road, Aston, Birmingham, was fined £50 yesterday for two thefts from the same store. He was arrested when staff recognized him from the previous day, Miss Francoise Snape, for the prosecution, told Birmingham magistrates.

## Man to be freed after 26 years

Britain's second longest serving prisoner, Kenneth Barlow, aged 63, will be released on licence next week. He was jailed 26 years ago for the "perfect" murder of his wife by injecting her with insulin.

Barlow is in Leyhill open prison, near Bristol. Only John Straffen, the child killer, has been in prison longer.

## Cast of 'Archers' at funeral

The funeral of Gwen Berryman, the actress who played Doris Archer for almost 30 years in the BBC radio series *The Archers*, was attended yesterday in Torquay by members of the cast.

She left the programme because of ill health in 1980 and died last weekaged 77.

## Crash landing

Mr Ian Rae, the pilot of a Cessna 310 light aircraft and his woman passenger escaped injury when it crashed at Glasgow airport last night.

## Corrections

Roy Marsden, who plays Mr Chips in a new BBC television series, had his last major role in the *Anglia* series *Death of an Expert Witness*. Not *Reilly, Ace of Spies*, as stated yesterday.

*Love Song*, the television play in which Lord Olivier is to appear next May, was written by Paul Ablan, not Jeffrey Archer, off whose short story, "Old Love", it is based.

## Today's Taste of Utopia

December 27th

● Uruguay gives tremendous welcome to returning children of political prisoners. ● Experts see hope for saving endangered German forests. ● Preventative medicine boom - "This was the year people began to realize that their health is in their hands," says Director of the U.S. National Institute of Health.

● Mr Murray expressed concern to Mr Clark that potential applicants in tribunal cases would be deterred because cost could be awarded against them.

● Mr Denning, former Master of the Rolls, has said part of the new regulations was so complex that it was extremely difficult even for lawyers to understand.

● The House of Lords passed an amendment to the Bill on

tribunals to hear equal value claims, but the TUC says it will also allow employers to claim justification for inequities because of "market forces".

For example, where a woman has a skill of "equal value" to a man's, an employer will be allowed to pay him more if his skill is in short supply.

● This would reinforce the segregation of women into low-paid jobs rather than end inequality, the TUC said.

● Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, has said part of the new regulations was so complex that it was extremely difficult even for lawyers to understand.

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## Aquascutum SALE

For Men & Women  
Open Monday 2nd January

Open until 5.30pm

### Men

Were	Now
£133	£85
£147	£115
£135	£89
£185	£125
£195	£97
£545	£395

### Women

Were	Now



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## Nurse suspended after inquiry into night management at hospital

By Michael Horsell

The senior night nursing officer at a hospital for the mentally handicapped, where a union official committed suicide this year, has been suspended after a six-month inquiry into night nursing management there.

Mr Amadeo Dell'Eario, aged 48, was relieved of his duties at the 300-patient Harbury Hospital near Radlett, Hertfordshire, when the inquiry team reported serious deficiency in the quality of management.

The report, endorsed by the North-West Hertfordshire Health Authority which ordered it, followed pressure from the health service union, Cosh, for an investigation into what happens at nights at the hospital.

A night nurse, Mr Tony Joyce, aged 36, who was the hospital's Cosh branch secretary, was found dead last February with his throat slashed outside ward entrance. An electric carving knife was discovered near by.

An inquest decided Mr Joyce had taken his own life.

In mid-December 1982 he had begun to take statements from night staff concerned about management practices at

the hospital at night. Then on New Year's Eve he was involved in an alleged skirmish with a senior member of the night nursing staff. As a result he faced a disciplinary hearing.

Mrs Margaret Joyce told the inquiry that her husband, who had protested his innocence, had been worried he would lose his job.

Mr Neil Goodwin, the health authority's deputy district administrator, said yesterday:

"It is alleged that Mr Joyce was harassed for taking statements from staff over their dissatisfaction with the management."

"His tragic suicide heightened the antagonism of staff to management but it was one incident in a sequence of events which led the authority to hold an inquiry."

The report, by a four-man health authority team, said:

"Staff we interviewed, including sisters, were of the opinion that there was an undue degree of familiarity in the relationships of the male nurse managers and certain female staff."

Mr Dell'Eario, an Italian, has been suspended on full pay pending further investigations by Mr Frank Powell, district

## Sony cuts disc price by £90

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

The latest price war in the high street shops moved into a new phase yesterday with the Japanese consumer electronics manufacturer, Sony, cutting the price of its compact disc players only ten months after its British launch, in an attempt to match European competition.

By October only 10,000 of all types were sold, made largely by Sony, Philips and Marantz but, with more companies making the players, fierce competition, further price reductions and a boom in sales is expected.

Philips and Sony developed the technology, which uses a

laser as a stylus and reproduces high quality music from a disc the size of a beer mat. The disc plays for a hour on one side only.

There are about 500 titles available on compact disc which are pressed principally by Polygram in its factory in Hanover, West Germany, and CBS-Sony in Japan.

The players were launched in October last year in Japan and this year in most of Europe and the United States.

## Police say farewell to Harrods bomb WPC

By Tony Santag

The Metropolitan Police paid their last respects yesterday to Miss Jane Phillips Arbutnott, Woman Police Constable 481B, attached to Chelsea Police Station.

WPC Arbutnott, aged 22, was one of two police officers who died in the bomb explosion at Harrods on December 17. A third officer, Inspector Stephen Dodd, aged 34, died on Christmas Eve of injuries received in the blast and is to be buried next week.

The funeral congregation at St Luke's Church, round the corner from the police station in Lucas Place, was a still sea of black uniforms punctuated only by the white hats of Miss Arbutnott's female colleagues.

In his address, the Right Rev Mark Santer, Bishop of Kensington, spoke of a collective "debt of pride and gratitude to men and women who have counted the cost, and know the risks, and are still prepared to do what has to be done to protect the life and the security of their fellow citizens".

Sergeant Michael Thwaites' appreciation dwelt on WPC Arbutnott's style, in particular her bicycle, which she had bought "to enable her, in her own words, to 'zap around the ground'".

Sir Kenneth Newman, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, was among the congregation. The pall-bearers, all close colleagues of the dead woman, included two who had been slightly injured in the Harrods explosion. Police Constables Mark Grover and Peter Weinberg. The anthem, Mendelssohn's "Beati Mortui" was sung by the Metropolitan Police choir.

Burial, in south London, was private.

Police Constable Jon Gordon, the dog handler who lost a leg in the Harrods blast, may have to undergo another operation, it was announced yesterday.



Among the police guard of honour outside St Luke's Church, WPC Pamela White weeps for her murdered colleague (Photograph: Chris Harris).

## Law firm collapses with debts of £400,000

From Our Correspondent Liverpool

A firm of solicitors in Liverpool has collapsed with debts of £400,000 and is being investigated by police.

The Law Society launched its own inquiry into Nevilles Piercy and Calveley six weeks ago and appointed other solicitors to take over the business. Meanwhile, the commercial branch of Merseyside Police has started an inquiry into complaints from five former clients.

Mr Anthony Ostrin, of Yaffe, Jackson and Ostrin, the solicitors dealing with outstanding business, claimed yesterday that banks in Liverpool were owed more than £300,000.

"The money due to the banks has disappeared over a period of 18 months", he said.

He said the Law Society had set up a compensation fund of £15,000 for former clients but more than £80,000 had already been claimed.

Earlier this year the senior partner, Mr Alex Calveley, was fined £225 with £25 costs for failing to provide a return for value-added tax.

The Law Society said yesterday that inquiries by its professional purposes committee would be completed by the end of January.

Mr Calveley, who represented the child killer Ronald Waldron at preliminary hearings earlier this year, declined to comment at home in St George's Road, Hightown.

## Falklands eggs now penguins

Two penguin eggs from the Falklands have hatched out at the Birdland sanctuary in Bourton-on-the-Water, in Gloucestershire.

Mr Richard Hill, whose late father bought the uninhabited Grand Jason and Steeple Jason islands in the Falklands 30 years ago, went there last month and brought back a batch

## £1 note gets stay of execution

By Kenneth Gosling

The Prime Minister's remarks last week concerning the unpopularity of the £1 coin appear to have lengthened the timescale over which the coin will eventually replace the note.

Mr Ian Stewart, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, has said in a letter to Mr Norman Atkinson, Labour MP for Tottenham, that the Government always intended to withdraw the note "once the public had got used to the coin".

The trouble with the £1 note, as Mr Stewart said in his letter, is that it gets stuffed into pockets and purses and into shop tills and not returned to banks when its short life is over, to be replaced by new ones.

But for the foreseeable future – and no one was prepared to say yesterday when the full changeover will occur – the public will continue to choose between the two and, as Mrs Margaret Thatcher said last week, generally prefer the note, however tatty and grubby it may become.

It will certainly be retained, as she also said. The question mark hangs over the word "indefinitely".



## Low-price Scotch under fire

By Philip Webster

A David and Goliath struggle to save the cheap Scotch dram has developed among whisky producers north of the border.

Three firms who have been selling special cheaper, if slightly weaker, brands are under threat from government regulations for which the powerful Scotch Whisky Association has been pressuring.

Most whisky is sold at a strength of 40 per cent alcohol volume. By bringing the alcohol content down by 2.5 per cent the three companies, Glencairn, Grangemouth Bond and the Co-op, have been able to take advantage of a sharp drop in the duty payable and sell their bottles at about £1 less.

The Government has drawn up regulations, which were due to come into force on January 1, to prohibit the production of whisky below 40 per cent alcohol, but has decided to hold off to consider a mass of representations on the issue.

The Scotch Whisky Association argues that if the British regulations are changed other countries will follow suit and its exports will be protected.

The Scotch Whisky Association argues that if the British regulations are changed other countries will follow suit and its exports will be protected.

It has averaged the prices of eight standard brands at £5.77 a bottle. It states that if High Commission, which now sells at £5.99 had been bottled at full strength in the standard size bottle, its retail equivalent would be £6.85.

## 'Heart for Christmas' girl home for new year

Emma Pashley, aged 7, returned home yesterday after doctors declared themselves very pleased with her progress after a heart operation.

The girl from Cheadle, Greater Manchester, had the operation two weeks ago after writing to Santa Claus asking for a new heart for Christmas.

It had been discovered that her heart was on the wrong side of her body and the wrong way round with transposed arteries.

Yesterday her parents, Mr Rod Pashley and his wife Susan, collected her from the Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital.

It is understood that the family, from Brookfield Road, have signed an exclusive deal with a national newspaper.

Doctors gave the couple the all-clear after visiting them yesterday. It had been feared that the girl would have to stay in hospital over the new year because of a family infection.

That was because doctors did not want any risk to her health after the marathon operation.

Miss Josie McGeal, hospital assistant administrator, said: "Emma was given a medical discharge on Wednesday. But she was kept in hospital as her family had a virus infection.

"Her condition is generally extremely good. We are very pleased with her progress. She will be reviewed in the admission clinic in two weeks' time."

## Napley defends Smith inquest fee

Sir David Napley, the lawyer who charged £164 an hour for representing Dr Richard Arnott at the Helen Smith inquest, said yesterday that there had been a "complete misunderstanding and lack of knowledge" over the way his fee was calculated.

Sir David, who was assisted by another solicitor from his firm throughout the hearing a year ago, has been criticised for issuing a bill for £32,237.

The final charge includes a 100 per cent "mark-up" because of the complexities of the case.

It is being met by West Yorkshire County Council out of the rates, but the council chairman, Mr John Gunnell, has said he was shocked by the "enormous" bill.

Sir David, speaking on BBC Radio's *The World At One* programme, said the bill included hotel and travelling

expenses for two people from London to Leeds and Harrogate.

In order to keep it "fair", the travelling costs were based on the cost of rail fares, he added.

"There has been a complete misunderstanding and lack of knowledge on how solicitors' fees are calculated", he said.

"They are the fees of my firm, and what happens is that the cost of having someone working in a firm has to be worked out."

That is the basic charge which is charged at £82 an hour, and then there is the mark-up this is the same in any business.

If you go into a shop you pay so much for an article which represents the cost plus a mark-up which is often in excess of 100 per cent and running a legal practice is the same.

"You have to have back-up – other solicitors are employed, computers, telephone, rent, rates. All these things have to be paid for. But it is distorting the position to make it appear that the lawyer takes the whole amount and puts it in his pocket."

Sir David said that when legal fees were assessed by taxing masters they took into account the amount of work done, the complexity of it and the experience of the solicitor involved.

According to Sir David, the county council agreed to pay "reasonable" fees on behalf of Dr Arnott. But he said that he had no dealing with the council.

He said that he did not think it right that the cost should be borne by the ratepayers just because of the geographical accident of the inquest being held in their locality.

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You've unlimited cover for the location and delivery of spare parts, and vehicle storage; £400 car hire expenses; £100 towing expenses; and £100 per person extra hotel expenses.

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When you snap the local wildlife and it snaps back, you can call up to £50,000 of medical expenses under Centurion Assistance.

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# Galtieri joins two former Presidents indicted for murder and treason

From Our Correspondent  
Buenos Aires

Former President Galtieri of Argentina, who was also the Army commander, and the Navy and Air Force commanders who helped him to plan last year's ill-fated Falklands invasion, were arraigned yesterday on charges of murder, torture, and illegal privation of liberty by Argentina's highest military court.

The court appearances came one day after four former armed services commanders, including former Presidents Jorge Videla and Roberto Viola, presented themselves before the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces here. They are accused of the same crimes by the military's new commander-in-chief, the new civilian President, Señor Raul Alfonsin.

In all, nine former service commanders, comprising the first three of four military juntas ruling Argentina since the armed forces seized power here in 1976, are being tried in the Government-ordered courts martial.

One of the two commanders who has not yet been arraigned



General Galtieri: In the dock with junta colleagues

December 16 to end nearly eight years of military rule here.

The decree was seen as an effort to fulfil a repeated campaign pledge by Señor Alfonsin to try those responsible for the military's bloody campaign against leftist terrorism in the mid and late 1970s.

More than 6,000 Argentines are believed to have been kidnapped and murdered by state security and armed forces

The new President's initiatives, which include a commission to investigate the fate of the disappeared and special legislation to facilitate the investigation of military personnel by civilian courts, have prompted a broadening period of Argentines of their country's bloody past.

Court-ordered exhumations from mass graves of the bodies of presumed victims of state security forces were due to have taken place yesterday in Buenos Aires.

In apparent effort to keep a politically even-handed approach to past civil strife, Señor Alfonsin's Government announced on Thursday the formation of a special anti-terrorist security force.

One of the two commanders who has not yet been arraigned

## Belaúnde reshuffles Peru Cabinet

Lima (Reuter) - President Fernando Belaúnde Terry of Peru was due to swear in three new ministers yesterday in his biggest Cabinet shakeup in nearly a year.

The reshuffle had been awaited since November 16 when President Belaúnde, who replaced half his 16-member Cabinet last January, said he would make changes in his team before the end of the year.

The most important ministry to change hands is Energy and Mines, which oversees products earning Peru more than half of its yearly export income of about \$2.17bn.

Peru is the world's second biggest silver producer and the sixth biggest producer of copper. It also exports nearly 40,000 barrels a day of gasoline and fuel oil to the United States and Colombia.

The new minister, Señor José Benavides Muñoz, aged 55, was previously manager of Peru's main steelmaker, the state-owned Siderperu corporation.

At the Fisheries Ministry, Señor Israel Benavides Ferrey-

## Riot troops seize 100 in Uruguay

Montevideo (Reuter) - Riot troops and mounted police charged into a crowd demonstrating against Uruguay's 10-year-old military Government and arrested about 100 people.

Several demonstrators were kicked, punched and hit with truncheons during the Thursday night protest. One young man was beaten by several policemen and then dragged to a building site where an officer kicked his head, they said.

Motorists on Montevideo's main avenue blew their horns and neighbours banged saucepans from their balconies.

The demonstration, in support of Mr German Araujo, the owner of an independent radio station shut down by the Government, was staged outside the flat where he has been on hunger strike.

Small demonstrations have been held here every day since the radio station was closed on December 27.

Chile protest, page 8

## Israelis close Awali bridges

Sidon (Reuter) - Israeli forces blocked all roads into occupied southern Lebanon with barbed wire yesterday as a wave of protest which started in Sidon on Thursday spread north to Beirut.

Israeli officers said the three crossing points - at the Awali bridge on the coast, at Bint Jbeil bridge 10 miles inland and at Nahr el Chouf mountains - would be open again on Monday. No explanation was given for the closure.

Military sources in Tel Aviv said technical reasons lay behind closing the two bridges over the Awali, Israel's northern defence line in Lebanon since its forces withdrew from Beirut.

A funeral procession from Beirut was turned back at the Awali yesterday and lorry drivers who had been waiting to cross for days turned with rage at the surprise closure.

Security measures imposed at the Awali last month after a bombing in the Tyre are the main cause of Lebanese grievance.

● BEIRUT: The Italian Defence Minister, Signor Giovanni Spadolini, arrived in Beirut unexpectedly yesterday to visit Italy's 2,200-strong contingent to the four-nation Western peacekeeping force in the Lebanese capital, Beirut radio said (Reuters report).

The radio gave no details of

his visit and the Italian military spokesman could not be contacted.

The Italian Defence Ministry said on Thursday that Signor Spadolini had asked the Italian commander in Beirut, General Franco Angioni, to approach the Lebanese Army about reports of army checks and searches inside the Italian zone.

● TEL AVIV: A seven vehicle Irish UN convoy was caught in a guerrilla ambush of an Israeli patrol on a coastal road in southern Lebanon. The Israeli pursued their attackers and the Irish, who had taken cover, escaped injury. (AP report).

● TUNIS: Mr Yassir Arafat, the PLO leader, arrived here to chair an urgent meeting of the central committee of Fatah, the divided main component of the PLO (AFP report).

The radio gave no details of

## Locked up 31 years for knowing no English

From Trevor Fishlock  
New York

Thirty-one years ago, David Tom was locked up in a mental institution after doctors decided he was mad. But they did not speak to him nor he to them, because he had no English and the authorities found no one who could speak his dialect of Chinese.

Over the years he learnt only a few words of English including "Me no crazy, why I here?"

He was right and the doctors wrong. Now, after a four-year legal battle, he is free and, at the age of 54, is learning to live outside an institution. He has been awarded £140,000 compensation. He does not talk about his 31 lost years.

Mr Tom arrived in the United States as an illegal immigrant and worked in a restaurant kitchen in San Francisco. Later he moved to Chicago but learned no English because he lived his life within the large Chinese community there.

He became ill with tuberculosis and, isolated and frightened, had a nervous breakdown. Doctors diagnosed schizophrenia, but they found nobody to talk to him. His brother, also living in Chicago, did not volunteer to help him. He, too, was an illegal immigrant and feared he would be deported if he made himself known.

So Mr Tom spent his life in four institutions, talking with no one. It was not until 1978 that he had a conversation in his native tongue. He was taken out for a meal in a Chinese restaurant and began talking to the cook.

He told the cook his story and asked for help. The cook told the hospital worker accompanying him that in his view Mr Tom was not mentally ill and that started the process which led to his freedom this week.

He is now in the care of Mr Patrick Murphy, a court-appointed guardian, Mr Murphy, a lawyer, said yesterday: "He is living with Chinese people who are helping to guide him back to normal life. Naturally he has been damaged by being locked up for 31 years. He is frightened that he will be sent back".

Mr Tony Mink, aged 36, an aircraft dealer, and his son Brian, aged 14, were found by a search helicopter. Mr Mink's wife, Charlene, died shortly after the crash.

Royal escape

Salzburg (Reuter) - Princess

Margriet of The Netherlands and her husband and two sons escaped unhurt from a two-car collision which killed a 20-year-old West German, the other driver here. The princess is a sister of Queen Beatrix.

Test-tube trio

Kiel (AP) - A West German woman, aged 26, has given birth to Europe's first set of tea-tube triplets. Doctors announced here. The babies, all boys, were delivered by Caesarean section and they and their mother are doing fine.

Writer punished

Moscow (Reuter) - Michel Heller, the Russian writer who has lived in France for the past decade, was deprived of his Soviet citizenship in an official decree published here. It accused him of "systematic hostile activities".

Tourists hurt

Budapest (AP) - Sixteen

West German tourists were injured, six of them seriously, when their bus crashed into a ditch while being overtaken by a lorry in dense fog. The Hungarian lorry driver was arrested.

Plague victims

Dar es Salaam (Reuter) - Plague has killed 10 more people in northern Tanzania, bringing the death toll over the past two weeks to 29.

Artful dodgers

Manila (Reuter) - About 40

boys apparently trained by modern-day Filipino Fagins as petty thieves, pickpockets and bag-snatchers have been arrested here. They ranged in age from six to 14.

Acid rain cloud

Newark (AP) - Acid rain

has killed 10 more people in

northern Tanzania, bringing the death toll over the past two weeks to 29.

Hopeful Jackson flies to Damascus

Frankfurt, (AP) - The Rev Jesse Jackson left yesterday on the second leg of his journey to Syria, saying he was hopeful about arranging the release of the US Navy pilot Lieutenant Robert Goodman, captured during an American raid on Syrian positions in Lebanon.

"The point is, if we do nothing, nothing will happen," he said after resting in a VIP lounge following an overnight flight from New York.

Mr Jackson, accompanied by a delegation of US clergymen, left for Damascus on a Lufthansa flight.

The civil rights leader and Democratic

presidential candidate told reporters that neither race nor politics played a role in his decision to fly to Syria.

"This is a truly American matter. I have been involved in humanitarian missions in the past."

Mr Jackson said he was carrying a letter from Lieutenant Goodman's mother, who lives in New York. He spoke to her by telephone shortly before leaving Frankfurt and said he promised to try to arrange a telephone call from her son if possible.

"We will appeal to President Assad (of Syria) to release him on humanitarian grounds."

Mission to Syria: Mr Jackson (right) and his party on the flight from New York

US fails to muster much support for its threat of withdrawal

Britain tries to change Unesco from within

The British Government has no intention of following the United States' decision to withdraw from Unesco, the cultural agency of the United Nations.

This was made clear yesterday in a Foreign Office statement which emphasizes that Britain is better placed to achieve improvements and economies from within the organization.

Washington's reasons for withdrawal were given as the alleged extravagance of Unesco and its "hostilities" to a free society.

The Foreign Office statement says: "The United Kingdom fully understands the reasons which have led the United States to take their decision to withdraw. We have always been foremost among those member-countries of Unesco which have been critical of the organization's performance.

"We have, in particular, led the resistance to all attempts to restrict the freedom of the media through a 'New World Information and Communications Order', and to redefine human rights in a way which would only restrict them for the individual."

● WELLINGTON: The New Zealand Government is studying whether to continue its contributions to Unesco the Foreign Minister, Mr Warren Cooper, confirmed today (AFP report).

The eight were able to send the budget back for revision.

Last month the general conference passed a new two-year figure: \$374.4m. Furthermore, Unesco asked the 152 members to pay only \$344.7m.

In fact, the cut was not what it seemed: Unesco was digging into past over-payments resulting

from unrealistic dollar-franc exchange rates. So, almost miraculously, spending for 1984-85 will rise by about \$10m, or 4.5 per cent, while contributions will fall by about 10 per cent.

But the percentage that members pay is unchanged.

Britain's assessment is 4.61 per cent of the total, based on a formula that includes population and national income. But the \$15.85m it is due to pay will turn out to be far less - thanks again to the currency fluctuations fund, the 1984 contribution of \$7.94m will be reduced to \$4.86m.

West Germany's share of the total is 8.44 per cent and France's is 6.43 per cent. Japan, because of its larger population and wealth, pays 10.9 per cent. The Soviet Union, with far more people than Japan contributes 10.41 per cent, owing to its lower per capita income.

Italy will contribute 3.69 per cent, Canada 3.04 per cent, Spain 1.91 per cent, East Germany 1.37 per cent, Brazil 1.37 and Sweden 1.30 per cent.

The remaining 141 countries' contributions totals 22.24 per cent.

## Climbers airlifted off by order of Muldoon

Timaru, New Zealand (Reuter) - Seven disabled Japanese climbers were airlifted off New Zealand's highest peak on the orders of the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Muldoon.

All members of the Tokyo Deaf and Mute Climbing Society, they were flown down from Mount Cook by Air Force helicopter after ignoring earlier warnings that conditions in the 12,421ft mountain were dangerous.

"They have done their training on Mount Fujiyama where you can walk to the top and back on a Sunday afternoon," Mr Muldoon said. "I suppose there will be a bit of a fuss, but there would have been a worse fuss if they got themselves killed."

## Lady Young to visit Grenada

Lady Young, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, will visit Grenada between January 5 and 7, the Foreign Office announced. It will be the first visit by a British minister since the US invasion.

When Lady Young meets the Governor-General, Sir Paul Scoon, and members of the Interim Council, the question of aid will be high on the agenda.

Mr Shridath Ramphal, the Commonwealth Secretary-General, will also be visiting Grenada next week.

## Two survive in plane wreckage

Albuquerque, New Mexico (Reuter) - A pilot and his son are in hospital after surviving the five days of freezing temperatures in the wreckage of a light aircraft that crashed in rugged mountains near her.

Mr Tony Mink, aged 36, an aircraft dealer, and his son Brian, aged 14, were found by a search helicopter. Mr Mink's wife, Charlene, died shortly after the crash.

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## Acid rain cloud

Newark (AP) - Acid rain has

# Britain gives up 95-year responsibility for tiny Brunei at midnight tonight

From David Watts, Singapore

Britain gives up the last of its direct responsibilities in South-East Asia at midnight today, when the tiny state of Brunei attains full independence.

Reading a short declaration of independence on the *padang* in the centre of his capital, Bandar Seri Begawan, the Sultan, Sir Muda Hassanal Bolkiah, will then bring to an end 95 years of British protection for his enclave on the north coast of Borneo.

Soil responsibility for some 200,000 will once again pass to the Sultan's family which has held power there for the last 400 years.



Sir Muda: Responsibility for 200,000 people

Early next year, Brunei will take its place as the sixth member of the Association of South-East Asian Nations. It will be not the richest *per capita* in the group but also arguably the most heavily armed. It is also expected

to apply to join the United Nations.

But while tonight's celebrations will mark the end of British responsibility for Brunei's defence and foreign affairs, the British connection will remain close for the foreseeable future.

A large amount of Brunei's foreign financial investments will still be in the hands of the Crown Agents, a British Gurkha battalion will be stationed at the oil fields and some 150 Britons will remain with the Royal Brunei Malay Regiment to help bring into service British Rapier anti-aircraft missiles.

But the historic handing over

of power to the young Sultan will pass with hardly a ripple in the little sultanate. The streets are decked with flags and banners proclaiming *merdeka* (independence), but in reality there will be no change in the lives of Bruneians. They are already well used to the luxuries of the twentieth century and well protected from the harsh world beyond the South China Sea by seemingly endless oil wealth.

The cars at Poissy, is jointly owned by Peugeot and Talbot S.A. A statement said Peugeot's shares would be transferred to a dormant company called Sora S.A.

The dispute has embarrassed France's government. It began when Peugeot announced it wanted to axe 2,900 workers from the Poissy plant. The Prime Minister, M. Pierre Mauroy, persuaded the management to reduce the figure to 1,900.

M. Jean-Pierre Noual, shop steward with the pro-Socialist CFDT union, said yesterday:

"The fight goes on. We are going to organize a big campaign to explain all this. We want the redundancy notices withdrawn and negotiations started."

The Communist-led CGT has accepted the principle of 1,905 lay-offs, but maintains there must be negotiations over how they take place. The CFDT leadership has refused to accept the redundancy scheme and its chief, M. Edmond Maire, has attacked the Government's handling of the Talbot affair.

Talbot S.N.C., which builds

**New foreign minister in North Korea**

Tokyo (Reuter) — Mr Ho Dam, North Korea's Foreign Minister, who held the post for 13 years, was replaced yesterday by Mr Kim Yong Nam, the North Korean Central News Agency reported.

The agency monitored here said Mr Ho had been removed from the Foreign Ministry portfolio and his deputy prime minister and transferred

The three arrests were made during raids by Singapore police on Christmas Day.

The arrests were prompted by a particularly spectacular mishap in Malaysia when a lorry carrying chips worth £1 million (about £300,000) lost its cargo.

## Acid leak sends poison cloud over Nuremberg

Nuremberg (AP) — Sixteen people, including six policemen, were taken to hospital yesterday after nitric acid leaking from a tanker lorry created a poison cloud on the east side of Nuremberg.

Between 30 and 40 people were temporarily evacuated from their homes and others in the affected area were told to shut all doors and windows. Firemen declared the danger to be over after three hours.

Among those taken to hospital were seven workers at the Staub chemical company, where the accident took place.

Nitric acid had leaked from one of the firm's tankers and combined with the air to form the cloud. Workers were trying to pump the liquid acid from one tanker to another when one of the tankers sprang the leak.

Firemen dispersed the cloud by shooting water into the air.

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## Closure warning to Peugeot plant

Paris (Reuter) — The management of the Peugeot Car Division told union representatives at its strike-bound Talbot car plant at Poissy yesterday that the factory would be closed indefinitely from Monday, and that salaries would not be paid.

They said in a statement that workers illegally occupying the plant had prevented essential maintenance work from being carried out to enable production to start on January 2.

About 100 striking workers occupying the plant refused for the second day running yesterday to allow in the maintenance teams. The rebel trade unionists are defying a court order to leave.

The statement said the plant would reopen only when conditions had returned to normal. The plant has been paralysed by a strike for the past three weeks and today's move has cast doubt over Talbot's future. Peugeot, which purchased Talbot from Chrysler in 1978, earlier this week announced moves to distance itself legally from Talbot.

Talbot S.N.C., which builds

**Unita conduct praised by freed captives**

Johannesburg, (Reuter) — Twenty-six foreigners released by the Angolan guerrilla group Unita spent their first day of freedom yesterday and said they were well-treated during months as hostages.

Most of the group, born of Portuguese parents in Angola, a former Portuguese colony, were preparing to leave for Lisbon last night and a new life in Portugal.

"I feel sad about leaving Angola — I had everything there," said Senator Antonio Silva, aged 31, "but I'm young and can restart life in Portugal."

Senior Silva, his wife and two children and 17 other Portuguese were among the 26 who flew in from Angola on Thursday on a Red Cross flight. The group, which also included two Spaniards, a Uruguayan and a Brazilian, was set free in a Christmas amnesty by Unita and its leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, who is fighting the Marxist government in Luanda.

The Angolan-born Senator Silva, captured nine months ago in Alto Catumbelo province south of the capital, spoke with neither bitterness nor emotion of his 78-day trek with his Unita captors in which they covered 950 miles.

Mr Robert Hughes, Labour



The rescue: Two children climbing out of their stalled cable car into a rescue box after being trapped for several hours.

## 120 spend night on high wire

Bellinzona, Switzerland (AP) — About 120 passengers descending from the 6,471 ft Mt Tamaro were trapped in 30 blocked cable cars for up to 12 hours before the last were freed early yesterday in a spectacular rescue operation.

Police said no one was injured.

Rescuers from the Swiss Alpine Club, lowered from helicopters on ropes or hoisting themselves from cable car to cable car after climbing up via supporting pylons, freed most by lowering the passengers to the ground in nets, one by one. Others were picked up directly by helicopters. Fire ladders were used in evacuating those trapped in cars closer to the ground.



The relief: A child rescued from one of the 30 stalled cable cars reunited with his father.

## Attack on Angola deplored by UK

MP for Aberdeen North and Chairman of the Anti-Apartheid Movement called on the Government to consider withdrawing the British Ambassador from Pretoria as a protest at South Africa's military action.

He has also sent a telegram on behalf of the movement to Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, urging him to summon the South African Ambassador in London to the Foreign Office for an official protest.

• BONN: West Germany yesterday expressed "deep concern" over South Africa's action and repeated a call for the immediate withdrawal of South African forces (Reuter reports).

"We believe that the withdrawal of South African troops, and indeed of all foreign troops, from Angola, would improve the prospects for a peaceful independence settlement in Namibia."

• PRETORIA: South Africa said nine of its soldiers had died in the three-week action and one is missing for the loss of at least 52 Swapo fighters (Reuters reports).

The official news agency Angop said in a broadcast monitored here that three South African motorized brigades, 100 aircraft and artillery units using 140mm and 155mm guns were engaged in fierce battle in three Southern Angolan provinces.

The report said the incursion was aimed at weakening the combat strength of Angolan resistance forces and that only South African and Angolan troops were involved in the fighting.

• LIMA: Peru's Foreign Minister notes with deep concern that Pretoria in recent days has not only continued its military actions but intensified them", a Foreign Ministry statement said.

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# Rajiv proves a success but Gandhi party fails to heal divisions

From Michael Hamlyn, Calcutta

Half a million Bengalis turned out yesterday to watch Mrs Indira Gandhi at the climax to her party's conference here. The brigade parade ground on the Calcutta maidan was a sea of blue-black hair to the point sight was lost in the crowd's own dust.

Mrs Gandhi in a white sari and shawl rode in triumph in an open Jeep to a towering dais draped in saffron while cheerleaders chanted: "Indira Gandhi Zindabad; Rajiv Gandhi Zindabad."

Two Cabinet ministers from West Bengal, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, the Finance Minister, and Mr G. K. Chowdhury, the Railways Minister, spoke but the crowd was anxious to hear Mr Rajiv Gandhi and his mother. He spoke for 10 minutes, she for the best part of an hour.

Both of them laid into the leftist Government of West Bengal. Mrs Gandhi made her now familiar plea to save the unity and integrity of the country, and added that the party plenary session just ending showed how close the Congress workers were to the aspirations and ideals of the people of India.

At the end of the day she flew back to Delhi to consider the lessons of the conference and its implications for the future of her Government.

She expressed herself satisfactorily with the Calcutta session. "It was a good session," she said. But remembering when she had stalked up and down

the dais in a fury, trying to snatch a photographer's camera, and to force the rest of the audience to sit down, she added: "The enthusiasm of the young people made me lose my voice."

As she flew back in her Indian Air Force plane, she could have calculated the successes and failures of the conference somewhat as follows.

On the credit side she was able to present her son as a credible, responsible politician, who could handle himself as well in front of a major conference audience or a crowd half a million strong as in the committee rooms and corridors of her administration.

There were constant unofficial reports during the conference that she was about to have him named as president of the party — a job she was given by her father when she first began to make her mark in Congress.

No official announcement was made, however. When a reporter for *India Today*, a lively news magazine, asked how she would rate his performance, she snapped that she was not going to answer that type of question from his type of magazine.

"Freedom of the press does not extend to antinationalism," she added, "and your magazine has been very anti-national at times."

The main achievement of the conference, however, has been to put forward Congress party programmes in a coherent and cogent way to a mass audience.

## Tough ally of Australian Liberals quits politics

From Douglas Aitken  
Melbourne

One of the most forceful personalities in Australian politics for the last two decades, Mr Douglas Anthony is to resign both from Parliament and the leadership of the right-wing National Party.

Mr Anthony is 54 today and has been an MP for 26 years. The National Party, formerly the Country Party, is the traditional coalition party with the Liberals now in opposition to Mr Bob Hawke's Labor Government.

Mr Anthony has long been identified as the most effective anti-socialist parliamentarian in the House and has been noticeably quiet since Labour assumed office last March. He is a wealthy pastoralist from northern New South Wales and his father was a prominent conservative politician.

He is the epitome of the sunburnt, staunchly conserva-

## Autonomy deal put to Tamils

From Donavan Moldrich  
Colombo

President Jayewardene has circulated a 14-point proposal to solve the problems of the Tamil minority community among leaders of eight main political parties. They include the Tamil United Liberation Front, which will hold a series of discussions on the plan in Colombo from January 10 to January 20.

The basic feature of the plan involves the abandonment of the Tamil demand for a separate state, but provision is made for regional autonomy by the merger of district development councils in a province if such a merger is the wish of the councils.

In provinces which opt for a merger the leader of the largest political party will be designated chief minister.



Mr Anthony: Epitome of the sunburnt Australian

## Figueiredo rejects direct election of successor

From Our Correspondent.  
Sao Paulo

President Joao Figueiredo has rejected proposals that his successor to take over in March 1985 should be chosen by direct popular vote.

In an end-of-year message to the nation he said that the system of indirect elections for the presidency through an electoral college, enshrined in the 1964 constitution after a military takeover, was perfectly legitimate.

freezing wages is being watched in Brazil to build up for the surge to happen here.

Señor Alfonso, who attended the March inauguration of the PMDB Governor of São Paulo State, Senhor Franco Montoro, has been visited by virtually the entire PMDB leadership in recent weeks.

The new Argentine President's recipe for curbing his country's 400 per cent inflation — twice Brazil's — by freezing prices. And, after raising them,

presidency is causing pressure in Brazil to build up for the surge to happen here.

Señor Figueiredo announced in his end-of-year message that Brazil would honour its debts, the highest in the developing world.

Some opposition leaders are hoping that events in Argentina will give impetus to Brazil's faltering progress towards full democracy.

The fact that Señor Raul Alfonsin was directly elected by popular vote to the Argentine

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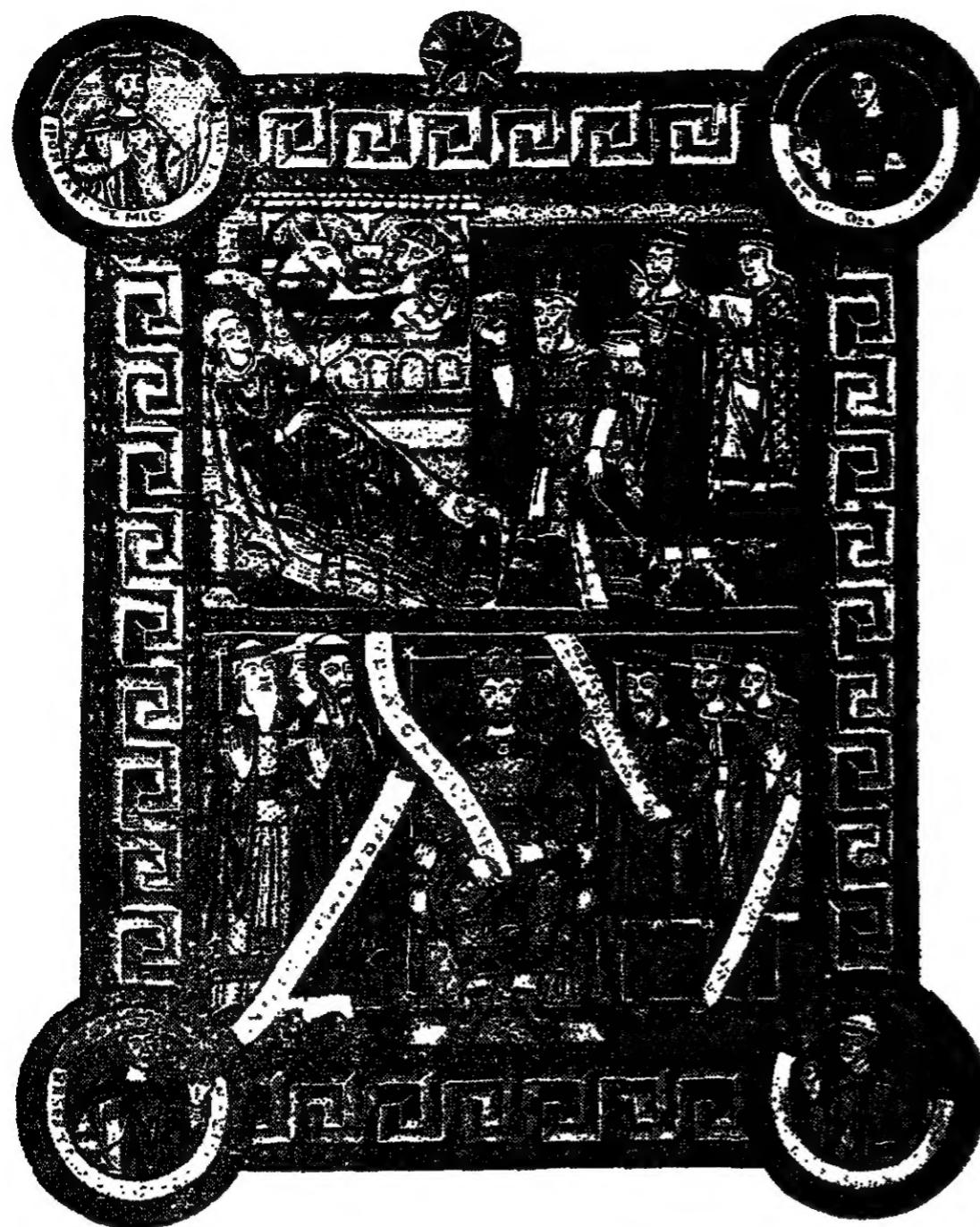
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Radio  
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# In 1983 the finest works of art were sold at Sotheby's.



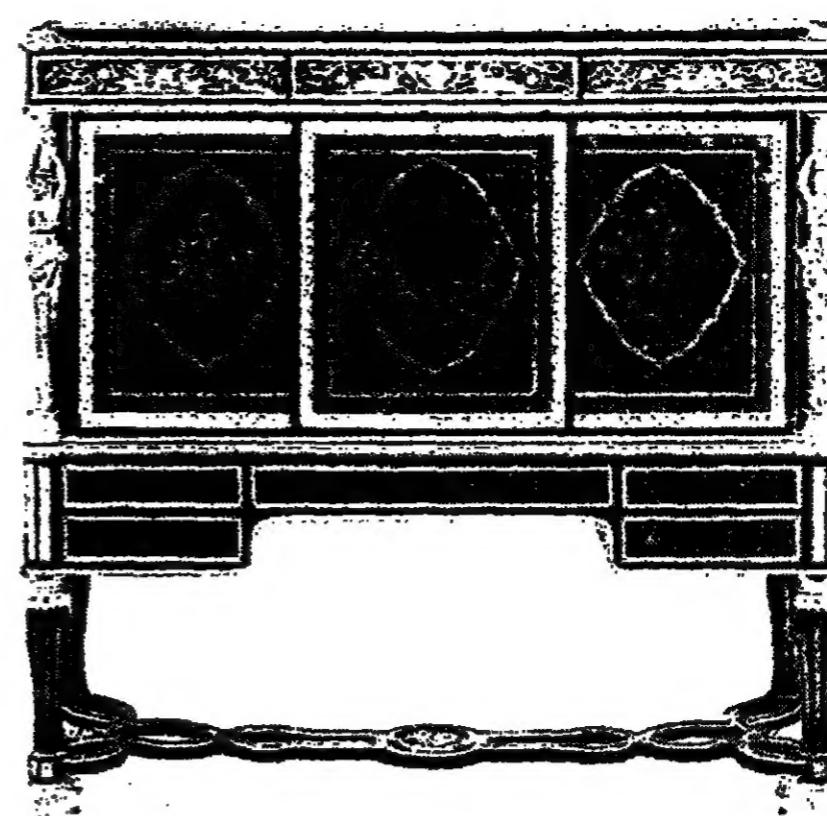
THE ADORATION OF THE MAGI

One of fifty-one full page miniatures from the Gospel Book made for Henry the Lion, Duke of Saxony, at Helmhausen Abbey c. 1175. It is among the finest works of art from medieval Germany. Sold on 6th December 1983 for £8,140,000, a world record price for any object sold at auction.



A MILANESE THREE-QUARTER ARMOUR

Made for Henri II, King of France (regn. 1547-1559) by Giovanni Paolo Negri, c. 1540-1545, the most famous armorer of his period. Sold on 5th May 1983 as part of the Hever Castle Collection for £1,925,000, a world record not only for armour but for any item of decorative art.



A FRENCH ROYAL CABINET

The highly important Louis XVI secrétaire à abattant attributed to Adam Weisweiler and delivered for the Cabinet du Roi at Versailles. Sold on 8th July 1983, it reached a world auction record for any piece of furniture of £990,000.



THE HAVEMEYER COLLECTION

"L'Attente," by Degas, was the most valuable picture sold from this famous collection. The whole sale which included the Havemeyer Collection and other Impressionist and Modern Paintings, was held in New York on 18th May 1983 and realised over £23 million, a world record total for a single auction.

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## SPORTING DIARY

### Cricket stars

The England cricket touring party lined up to go to Fiji, New Zealand and Pakistan last week looking as if they were really going to Krypton, Perlerland and the Horse Head's Nebula. Somehow their shiny silver astronaut jackets do not seem quite right for the game WG played. Happily, the Starship Enterprise ultra-lightweight blousons, (that is apparently the correct term) are not the official tour uniform. The lads will wear Burton blazers with a George and Dragon badge for the photograph when they stand with their hands behind their backs. The Silver Surfer outfits are strictly non-compulsory.

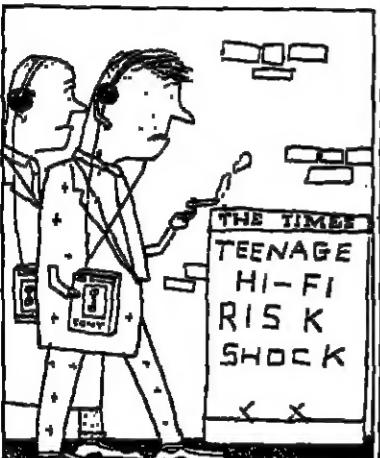
### Moral losers

That promising third division footballer, I. T. Botham, has been getting rapped over the knuckles for his behaviour lately. Football referees and men in authority in some other sport keep telling him off. But their problems are as nothing when compared with the disciplinary dramas of the Tunisian football team. Four players, including the captain, Tarek Dibab, were banned for their behaviour in the Mediterranean Games; a week later, the entire team was suspended. The crimes were "lack of effort" and "lax morals".

### Dire choice

David Gower has been getting in the mood for the Fijian stage of the tour by going into Radio 4's *Desert Island Discs* studio. The results will be heard on February 14. He revealed an electric taste - Handel and Elton John, as well as a band who should have composed an anthem for England's last tour: Dire Straits.

BARRY FANTONI



"At least they get you used to wearing a hearing aid"

### Game of the name

There is always a touch of the Irish in National Hunt racing, but was Ladbrokes going too far with its race card competition on Boxing Day, the day of the King George VI Chase at Kempton? To win the prize, a portable television, three questions on past winners of the King George had to be answered. The same race card carried on the inside cover exhaustive details of every winner since 1938. Perhaps the only question missing was: after whom is the King George VI Chase named?

• Is this the ultimate honour for the Yorkshire whiz kid trainer Michael Dickinson? At Kempton on Boxing Day he was buried beneath a locusts swarm of autograph seekers, everyone of them twice his age.

### Money matters

The president of Inter-Milan football club, Ivano Fraizzoli, commenting on allegations by the Dutch club, Groningen, that the Dutch coach was offered £55,000 to fix a UEFA Cup match between the two clubs said: "It's a pack of lies. Anyway, how could you hope to buy an entire team with such a small amount?"

### Sack record

Some people consider that Peter Carey was prematurely sacked as manager of the Isthmian League side, Barking, 48 hours before what would have been one of the greatest days of his career, an FA Cup tie against a third-division club, Plymouth Argyle. But Carey could undoubtedly take it in stride; he holds the world record for the shortest-ever managerial career. He was boss of Chelmsford City for 20 minutes. It is in the *Guinness Book of Records*. He never went near Chelmsford's ground, either. He was offered the job on the telephone by a new board of directors, and promptly accepted. The directors then discovered they did not have the authority they thought they had. So they called Carey back and gave him the push.

### Nightmare

Richard Greenwood, the England rugby coach with a 100 per cent record (1 out of 1) had a paddling-induced nightmare over Christmas, and dreamt that next weekend's England trial game had somehow become confused with American football. The air was filled with incomprehensible codes, everyone fell over, and Greenwood awoke in a cold sweat. Meanwhile the England captain, Peter Wheeler, his thumb in plaster and unable to turn out for his club, Leicester, against the Barbarians last week, was given the job of press steward instead. That's a very serious incentive to get match fit again.

Simon Barnes

Are we helping to fulfil George Orwell's prophecies?

## Shadow of the Thought Police

by Neil Kinnock

*Nineteen Eighty Four* was satire, not prophecy. Orwell was cautioning against complacency towards dictatorships, small or great, plutocratic or bureaucratic. He was exposing, by exaggeration, tendencies and potentials already present and capable of development. He was sounding an alarm - repeated in his essays of the period - about the consequences which the new atom bomb could have for relationships and resources across the world.

If the satire has an edge of prophecy, it is because some of Orwell's fears come uncomfortably close to fitting heads today.

Orwell, whatever the tomb-robbers say, was a radical democratic socialist, a fierce libertarian, a patriot for the decency which he sometimes saw practised (and always sought to nourish) in Britain.

The combination of qualities made him willing to deal with the realization that progress was not automatic and that, for the first time in two centuries, it was reasonable to acknowledge that the future could be worse than the past. Mankind had the mentality and the means to make it so. That was the warning in Orwell's pessimistic parody.

When coupled with old-age ruthlessness, the brand-new technologies of communication, persuasion, organization and destruction could, he knew, produce power more absolute than anything previously known. So much was - and is - obvious. The assiduous barbarities of modern dictatorship prove it.

At that level, *Nineteen Eighty Four* is a plain indictment of totalitarianism that can be applauded by any freedom-lover. But at another level Orwell's book becomes different in quality and importance from a shelf-full of other chronicles of repression. It is a parable of the way in which "power as an end, not a means" is installed and sustained in the political state and in any institution where minorities wield authority over majorities.

Fear is certainly the key to such power. But physical coercion is not enough to keep whole generations in check - the most that it can do is gain unstable, sullen submissiveness. To be secure, even absolute power needs the compliance of the multitude. To be enduring in its control over people, imposed power needs convention, horror of non-conformity, dread of being out of step in deed, word and - ultimately - in thought. And it is that which Orwell reports as 1984 in order to encourage resistance to creeping acquiescence.

Being Orwell he naturally put the major obligation for resistance on



his own class - the intelligentsia of the Outer Party - even while invariably regarding them as spineless spongers. And true to form too, he believed that "if there was hope, it lay in true proles" even though his confidence was purely sentimental.

As they rewrote *The Times* and falsified history, Winston Smith and his companions in the Ministry of Truth were all caricatures of intellectuals who, in their brain and bones, knew better, but stick to their positions rather than their convictions.

Orwell must have taken mischievous delight in contriving their literary liquidation. Dutifulness could clearly not save them when The System decided they were dispensable - or "redundant" as more modern parlance has it.

The proles, meanwhile, were rarely bothered by Thought Police or telly screens. They had "films, football, beer and, above all, gambling to fill up the horizons of their minds." It was *prolefeed*, the state provided cultural opiate of "rubbish newspapers" and pornography "produced by... a factory

process", rather than surveillance and terror that kept them in control. Our kind of state, Orwell knew, is different. It barely tolerates the commercial sale of such things and the *prolefeed* is not limited to one class. He did exaggerate. Satirists do.

These satires of *Nineteen Eighty Four* are not as widely quoted as those of the mangling of the language. But they are strong and perceptive and exceed in significance only by Orwell's central satirical target - the rigidly hierarchical society, the oligarchical economy, the permanent warfare of the superpower Oceania.

The sole self-perpetuating reason

for the existence of "Oligarchical Collectivism", the political regime of Oceania, is the maintenance of

the status quo. The whole edifice of organized hate, of continual shortage

and of social parasitism has at its base

the "burning off" of "the surplus value" by military expenditure

which, Emmanuel Goldstein's testa-

mone explains, preserves the existing

elites and prevents the abolition of

poverty.

In this world of starving nations and deadlocked empires the parody is too plausible for comfort, even though we have, thankfully not experienced the historical accelerant of nuclear war that gave the people of Airstrip One the Big Brother age.

In that and most other respects our 1984 is not *Nineteen Eighty Four*, of course. But when so much is dedicated in the modern world to the build up of weaponry and psyche and when domestic and foreign policies are guided so largely by negative reactions to other blocks and so little by positive efforts to develop economies and elevate societies, the warfare state is still nearer than it should be.

In the age of the SS20 and Pershing, the control of relationships and opinions are better-organized by a variety of smooth and savage means than ever before. And the stockpiles of the states, collective and capitalist, go on mounting up.

Those similarities would not have surprised Orwell. The veteran of *Down and Out* knew the state of magistrates, magistrates, "the spike", the means test, the police and the colonial administration at least as well as he knew the state of Stalin and Hitler. The latter attracted his undiluted venom. The former provoked his bitter mistrust. He knew that if it was not upheld by confident, vigilant, active citizens, ostensible democracy could be rotted by the abuse of public authority, or by economic insecurity, or by arrogant order-givers and compliant order-takers.

The question for us now in 1984 is not "have we reached *Nineteen Eighty Four*?" We plainly have not and we never will, any more than anyone has ever lived in Liliput or Brodribag. The question must be "what elements in our current condition give substance to the satire of Orwell?" The answer cannot be comforting.

In the political and economic divisions of the planet, in the still enduring demarcations of social class, in the prejudices and the dictated fads of the goodthink and badthink of our time, in the structures of press ownership, in a state which is being reduced as a source of care and opportunity while being extended as a means of control, the trends and dispositions that provoked Orwell's warnings still exist. Worse, they are stronger than they should be in a thriving democracy - let alone one that produced George Orwell.

"Don't let it happen" he said. "It depends on you." And you. The author is Leader of the Labour Party.

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Julie Davidson

## A guilty first foot in familiar Fenland

They will not be dancing in the streets of Alba tonight. But grimly, desperately like a band of crusaders cursed with a cause they can't deny, they will still be seeking the holy grail of hogmanay. Thousands will come home for it; millions will wait up for it; and most will lift the precious chalice to their lips and taste a bitter brew - predominantly alcoholic but tainted with the gall of failed expectations.

The Scottish New Year isn't what it used to be. The traditions of domestic renewal of warmth of the hearth and fare for the pantry have been scattered with the diaspora of the extended family. First foots go by car now, edgily, feeling the pain of the breathalyser on their necks. In their sheltered houses old ladies sit up until three in the morning waiting to offer sweet sherry and black buns to visitors who never come, and the midnight crowds who gather in the city squares are young and dangerous or old and homeless. The bells have a hollow ring. The grail has the look of base metal. At least, so tell us. As Scots living in Scotland we ought to know, but swiffling the way the wind was blowing we cancelled hogmanay six years ago and ever since have sneaked over the border on December 31 to raid the English for some seasonal optimism.

We don't just go to England. We go to the opposite end and the other extreme. We abandon our bumpy little country with its manic depressive landscape, its peaks and its troughs and its spiky historical topography for the linear province of East Anglia. We take measured strides across the Norfolk steppes, where the drinking and the thinking is as slow and practical as dyke water and where the land is deceptively stable, like a flat calm before a tidal wave. This will be our seventh hogmanay in the Fens, our seventh midnight watch spent below the level of the sea in the company of fair friends and strange foul.

At dusk the huge, blowy fenland skies shred themselves into flakes of feather and the bewicks and the whoopers and the mute swans sideslip over the cottage and into the Wildfowl Trust's refuge at Welney. At midnight when we open the door to the new year, the woeful honking of geese sounds a reproach. We, too, are refugees from the north, making an allegory of our journey. We have exchanged (to paraphrase the narrow, difficult path to Scots damnation) for the broad and easy road to English salvation.

We have swapped firewater for



Taking a bow : Dietrich, Nureyev and the Queen Mother

Roy Strong

## Perfecting life's curtain calls

It is sometimes regrettably true that curtain calls can be more interesting than the two or three hours which precede them. Few things are more fascinating than watching the reactions of people who are the subject of applause. How surprising it must be for those, like the Princess of Wales, who suddenly graduate into the league of being able to evoke a state of instant euphoria in everyone without apparently having done a thing.

Two masters of the theatrical curtain call are Nureyev and Sir Frederick Ashton. Nureyev one remembers as just standing there in the middle of the stage, rather far back. He can walk forward but he is usually motionless apart from the bow of the head and, from time to time, the ultimate gesture of drawing, with one sweep of his right arm, the whole audience to him, extending his hand across his heart. Ashton is far more complex, a long curtain call which must be responded to by movement of the body and facial expression. None has eclipsed the Queen Mother as the mistress of this art, knowing the exact moment when to acknowledge the crowd by a lift of her arm or when suddenly to look back at them.

Whether they like it or not, all its members are cast, as James I wrote, as actors upon a stage whose tiniest gesture is observed. Their public life is a long curtain call which must be responded to by movement of the body and facial expression. None has eclipsed the Queen Mother as the mistress of this art, knowing the exact moment when to acknowledge the crowd by a lift of her arm or when suddenly to look back at them.

I was never more struck by this artistry than at the gain for her eightieth birthday at Covent Garden. After the interval she seemed to vanish from the grand tier. The audience began to wonder what had happened when suddenly a beam of light fell on the old royal box and a glittering figure slowly advanced, alone, to what became a tumult. As I looked I was reminded of Graham Robertson's famous description of Ellen Terry trying to arrive at a party unnoticed but in effect making an entrance-like a surprise.

The exponents of this art are few. They have the ability to seize hold of that magic moment when the routine acknowledgment of applause lifts itself by a kind of empathy into an art form of its own, leaving an indelible impression on the fortunate spectator.

Sir Roy Strong is director of the Victoria & Albert Museum.



Theatrical masters : von Karajan, Terry and Sir Frederick Ashton

## There's life in the old idiom yet

New words and new meanings by Philip Howard

of that smug platitude." So one looks it up, and discovers that it is far older than Vanbrugh. It is recorded in English in 1509 in *Barclay's Ship of Fools*: "Virtue hath no reward." But you can take it back 15 centuries earlier than that. Ovid (who else?) *Premit sibi virtus*, or, as we say in the trade, "Virtue is its own reward". Vanbrugh was using a proverbial cliché with moths and rust on.

A bit later in the *Relapse* somebody says: "That's thinking half-seas over", and we sit up again. In this case Vanbrugh was one of the earliest to use the phrase metaphorically in a transferred sense. But half-seas over had been around as a half before that. Raleigh himself, that great half-seas over seadog, used it

when he wrote of sailors riding it out at anchor, "half-seas over between England and Ireland".

A little later, in the *Relapse*, one of those seventeenth-century comedians remarks: "So, matters go swimmingly." You could still say, "Oh, things are going swimmingly" today, without sounding hopelessly old-fashioned. So you look it up, and discover that things had been going swimmingly long before Vanbrugh used it as contemporary slang in his play, which means that fashionable people had been using the vogue commendatory adverb for even longer, before anybody thought of writing it down. It is not the case that there is nothing new under the sun in language. But slang is often older than it seems.

"I'll make garters of thy guts, thou villain."

We are continually using what we think are new words for old. But quite often they are not as new as we suppose.

"I don't mind if I do!", which

Simon Barnes

مكتبة من الأصل



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## 1984SPEAK

The principal message in George Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four* is about the use and abuse of language for political purposes. The dawning of the title year has precipitated a crop of structural comparisons between the state of 1984 which we will witness in fact tomorrow morning, and the conditions of society portrayed in the triangular world of dictatorship of Orwell's novel. But Orwell was less concerned with political structure than with words.

In an important appendix to the book he described the principles of Newspeak, the idea which forms the intellectual and cultural heart of the work. Newspeak, according to one of its practitioners, was intended to "Narrow the range of thought" until "thoughtcrime" (independent thinking of any kind) would be "literally impossible because there will be no words in which to express it". It meant that every year there would be fewer and fewer words in the vocabulary, and thus the range of consciousness would always be a little smaller. Significantly Orwell's appendix made clear that by 1984 only the most urgent deprivations had been made on the language. The terminal lobotomy of the English mind, for political purposes, was not to have been completed until 2050. By then every vestige of the variety and richness of our language would have been fully eliminated from speech and literature, rendering free thinking and free speech, which had been criminal, literally impossible. A veritable gulag of the mind.

## Touchstone

As we approach 1984 nobody can ignore the fact that we are on our way both by design and by default to a progressive and irrevocable deterioration in the use of language. Language is to public discourse and private morality what a sound currency is to economic stability: once it is subverted, society will lose its touchstone, and even its symbols and myths which are normally conveyed through words and are part of every society's self-consciousness.

It is a characteristic of every age to decry a decline in standards. But the decline in respect for language, and its subversion by some and traducement by many others, has a particular warning for us because it will diminish and ultimately destroy our ability to perceive that standards – any standards – are declining because without language those standards will no longer be capable of just expression or fair evaluation. Solzhenitsyn is not the only one to have noticed this decline. However, he is one of the few who have witnessed the twin motors of degeneration: the abuse by design in the totalitarian world from which he was exiled, and by default in the liberal world whose light shone at him from afar, only to dim when on closer inspection he discovered its cancer of doubt and self-destruction within.

We know that it is the purpose of Marxism-Leninism to subordinate everything – even words – to the interest of the Communist party. We have their word for it, year after year. We can listen to Mr Brezhnev recalling Lenin's words that "in our society everything that serves to build up Communism is moral". He paraphrased that by saying that "Everything serving the interest of people in building up Communism is democratic." What more categorical intention ultimately to destroy language and meaning, and what more immediate demonstration of the actual destruction of the meaning of two keynote words – moral and democratic – could there be than that?

Moreover we should not belittle the subversive effect of Marxist techniques to sustain and persist with the use of vague and meaningless terminology whose interpretation can be varied in different circumstances and adapted to the use of specific goals, by divorcing words from their accepted meaning and by ceaseless repetition of demonstrably untrue statements. What is the need to lie openly, when

truth, well doctored, gilded and shrewdly distributed, will serve the same purpose? It was Trollope who said that there is no villainy to which education cannot reconcile us. If education corrupts, can ceaseless propaganda be far behind?

It has already cast an effective spell within the Soviet system. As Adam Michnik, the Polish dissident, has observed, it corrodes a society which is deprived of the meaning of words, and thus of its critical faculty and the alternative concepts necessary to validate true criticism. "I believe that dispute about language is the central element of Polish intellectual life for the last 35 years," he has said. "It is about our ability to defend reality and to communicate with each other. In that period a great many of our society have lost their ability to communicate because of the language foisted upon them."

In the subsoil of a pluralist society lie the roots of individual freedom and morality. They are nourished by the gentle rain of a million words and ideas. No rain; no roots. No words; no freedom.

We know that Marxism-Leninism adapts and promotes any misuse of language if it contributes to the ultimate political goal. We know that systematic discussion and criticism is impossible if demonstrable falsehoods are deemed admissible – persistently so – because of their political purpose. We know there is a conspiracy to corrupt, subvert and ultimately destroy the "bourgeois language" because Lenin warned us of his intention. What is harder to recognise and harder still to cope with is the widespread indigenous debasement of our language which cannot be attributed to the violence of the best intentions. Their attitude was succinctly illustrated by Stephen Spender as "as some day, somewhere everything would add up to the happy total... The argument of an abstract sum held in one's mind which cancelled out all lesser considerations."

So, will Orwell's prediction of the debasement of language occur not from a Marxist conspiracy but from a self-inflicted wound? Will the decline and even extinction of our culture be achieved by "committed writers" described by H. G. Wells as "not men; but mere footnotes to reality"? Will they be driven by their propensity for abstract thinking in order to find goals in an abstraction, regardless of their lack of connection with mundane reality? We must see that Orwell's warning does not turn into a prophecy.

"The genuine intellectual", wrote Hans Morgenthau, the American scholar, "must speak truth to power." No; because to do so is to fall victim to the illusion that he has a superior truth when all can and should do is to point out that power has no more prescriptive truth behind it than the rest of us. A society, like an individual, is above all the idea which its members form of itself. This idea is not simply the product of the ideas merchants, but is based on many other things, in which words, images, myths and mysteries all combine and confound attempts to be codified by unitarians in search of the master code.

What if there is no single reality, but only, as Dr Alan McGlashan the London psychiatrist suggests in his book *Gravity and Levity*, a reality "always and everywhere ambiguous, paradoxical, open-ended", resting on an endlessly elusive balance of contraries? Man would then be free to commit himself totally, without anxiety, to whatever reveals itself as truth to him, in recognition of all life's other possibilities. "Life is not a series of problems", said the French philosopher Gabriel Marcel. "It is a network of mysteries." There is no place, no need, and no possibility for Newspeak in a society which has come to terms with the world's paradoxes and its mysteries. It would need more not fewer words then to help navigate such a momentous journey through time. It is not the Orwellian nightmare which should be upon us tonight as the bells ring in 1984; only life's eternal dream which bridges the differences between ourselves and what we seek.

## Manipulation

This condition is at its most pervasive in the social sciences, and any discipline relating to the study of economics. But it does not stop there. There is a progressive use of vague abstract concepts such as equality, discrimination, stabilization, interdependence and so on which are susceptible to often incompatible interpretation. As Popper observed, these methods are intended "through a conscious manipulation of facts and minds", to substantiate wholly invalid historical predictions about the future, particularly in periods of rapid social change or apprehension. These predictions are then amplified by appeals to the emotions which deny logical refutation.

There is a tendency to depersonalize and therefore to politicize private conditions affecting individuals. We have the politicization of sexuality and homosexuality, of marriage and divorce, of the status of women, of parental authority. The family, which is to be a living organism of infinite variety, good and bad, is treated as an abstraction, a mere index for social determinants. These tendencies should not be seen as

evidence of a Leninist conspiracy. They are more likely to spring from a reaction to it among intellectuals who, though seduced by the magnetic power of Marxist certainty and dogmatism, are searching themselves for a meaning in the secular Western society of today. They are desperate to match Marxist certainty with a counter truth equally categorical, but equally unsatisfactory. Le Bon, in *The Psychology of Socialism*, wrote: "Hitherto man has been unable to live without divinities. I might be a better judge if I were more intelligent and a profounder lawyer; but I cannot see what contribution to my present work would have been made by a three or four-year study of law in the 1940s for much of the law which I have to administer has been changed since that time and indeed continues to be changed, much of it since my appointment in 1971."

The law of divorce which takes up much of my time has been so revolutionized that the learning of 1947, when I was called, is now useless if not downright dangerous. Conradi has encountered much judicial interpretation as well as the busy hand of the parliamentary draftsman, especially in the realms of hire-purchase and consumer credit, those staples of the county court.

Torts have been altered in many respects, by statutes such as the Occupier's Liability Act, the Torts (Interference with Goods) Act, and the Acts dealing with animals; and by judicial reconsideration of such doctrines as the remoteness of damage and the limitation of actions, all good county court stuff.

## Happy total

In their desperation to merge the real and the ideal the Utopians succumb to the mystique of revolutionary violence – the violence of the best intentions. Their attitude was succinctly illustrated by Stephen Spender as "as some day, somewhere everything would add up to the happy total... The argument of an abstract sum held in one's mind which cancelled out all lesser considerations."

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new here or in America. There, with the state ones, there was, until its recent extinction, the Federal Power Commission, which those of us privileged to see it at work found well protected the widest public interest, consumers and others alike.

Here in the public interest in recent years has tended to be submerged equally by over-large centralised administration as by the questionable activities of politicians using the industry as a backdoor regulator of the economy and tax collector.

Yours faithfully,  
T. MERVYN JONES,  
Erw Hir,  
38 Fairwater Road,  
Llandaff,  
Cardiff.

For good measure he and his

board nurtured Sir Dennis Rooke, the present admirable Chairman of the British Gas Corporation.

Our Wales Board was responsible for the introduction to Britain of high-pressure pipe lining, on which the whole present distribution of North Sea gas is based, in spite of the gloomy predictions of the central establishment that we would surely fail; and at the same time achieved gas's first breakthrough into the profitable space-heating market.

So Sir Kenneth's proposal to reintroduce area board authority makes commercial sense, just as his supply corporation makes engineering sense, as has been sound for electricity generation.

The idea of an independent regulatory commission, as he said, is

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## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

### P&O wins the 1983 thoroughbred stakes

All week champagne corks have been popping in brokers' offices in celebration of a prosperous 1983 and to greet the new year, which holds promise of more good business to come.

This will be seen as the year Britain finally pulled clear of the recession. Much, if not all, of British industry as emerged more vigorous, leaner and better managed. Along the way there have been casualties, usually companies unable to conform to higher standards of competition, but, by and large, the forecasters paint a rosy picture of prospects.

The FT Index of 30 leading shares, a universally popular although not an accurate guide, ended the year on a high note at 776.2, a rise of over 30 per cent from the figures a year ago. The FT Actuaries All Share Index also closed 1983 on a firm note, just a couple of points short of its record high and 20 per cent up on a year ago. Despite belief to the contrary, both have outstripped inflation over the past nine years, and the market shows few signs of running out of steam yet.

This year also marked the appearance of American investors in numbers in the London stock market. Their thirst for the bluest of our blue chips seemed unquenchable, and this, combined with a stream of takeover situations, has made for a very lively market.

The best performance among the constituents of the FT Index was Peninsula & Oriental's, where the close attention of Mr Nigel Brookes and his colleagues at Trafalgar House and the response of the P&O board, mainly in the shape of a new chairman, Mr Jeffrey Sterling, did the share price nothing but good.

The next scene in this drama will be enacted in the new year when the Monopolies Commission delivers its report, but investors are now looking at P&O in its own right. The shares closed at 249.5 on Friday, way above Trafalgar's first bid in May, and a rise on the year of 130 per cent.

P&O's nearest rival was London Brick, up 108 per cent at 137p, after Lord Hanson's decision to add it to his buying list.

At the other end of the spectrum, the

disaster story of the year was London & Liverpool Trust. After parting company with its former chairman, Mr Ron Schuck, the board pinned its hopes on another entrepreneur, Mr Jeffrey Bonas, whose Telejetor subsidiary, the pub video company, was expected to yield rich pickings. Things turned sour.

Pundits and punters alike are now placing their bets on the leaders and laggards for 1984. If 1983 is anything to go by it should be another interesting race.

#### British Airways Shows strength

Sir Adam Thomson, chairman of British Caledonian, has put up a good case for his independent airline absorbing some of British Airways' prime routes as a precursor to BA's privatization. Not surprisingly, he reserves a pre-Hogmanay snub for Mr Colin Marshall, BA's chief executive, who says in *The Director* magazine: "One of the great strengths of British Airways, which needs to be maintained, is its comprehensive route network and structure. It is absolutely essential that it be maintained."

Sir Adam argues that duopoly in the airline business would be better than the near-monopoly enjoyed by British Airways: the Government, keen to see the best possible return from the sale of Lord King's increasingly efficient BA fleet, and the management led by Mr Marshall, are not so sure. Mr Marshall hopes to see "100 per cent of the airline sold. It would be unwise to be neither one thing nor the other."

In a Christmas Eve letter to *The Times*, Lord King underlined his intention not to preside over the dismemberment of the national flag carrier airline "by selling off valuable commercial assets." Any diminution of the BA role would not be in the nation's long-term interests, he said.

Mr Marshall says for good measure: "our belief, that whatever has to be done in terms of restructuring our balance sheet, the Government — and therefore the taxpayer — will get back at least all of the money that will have been put into British Airways and, I hope, a premium on top of that."

#### LEADERS AND LAGGARDS OF 1983

Company	Closing Price	Gain on year (%)	Company	Closing Price	Loss on year (%)	
Beltar Cosmetica	85.00	+830.00 +3608.7	London & L'pool	25.00	-146.50 -85.4	
Dollonds Photo	223.00	+296.00 +1096.3	Newman Inds.	17.00	-62.96 -78.7	
Hartung Bohnen	245.00	+220.00 +880.0	Ashley Ind'l Tet	12.00	-35.00 -74.5	
Kraft Producers	195.00	+174.00 +828.8	Breville Europe	29.00	-76.00 -72.9	
Belgrave (Birkth)	124.00	+119.00 +793.3	Burnett & Hallams	138.00	-314.50 -89.5	
Meggitt Hogs	88.00	+78.00 +780.0	Michael Black	40.00	-89.00 -69.0	
Tate	139.00	+117.00 +525.0	Hongkong Rubber	175.00	-375.00 -68.2	
Buis Resources	37.50	+31.50 +525.0	Humberstone Elect	9.00	-18.56 -67.8	
Pavilion Leisure	80.00	+67.00 +515.4	Blu-Isolates	88.00	-167.00 -68.5	
Acousticronic Hogs	19.00	+15.60 +474.8	Nova (Jersey) Knit	30.00	-53.00 -83.9	
Parkfield Fndrs	44.00	+38.11 +457.3	Comb Tech Corp	21.50	-35.00 -62.0	
Carpets Int	64.00	+52.50 +456.5	Ironon	30.00	-45.00 -60.0	
London Pavilion	13.00	+10.50 +420.0	Bargent	38.00	-47.50 -55.6	
W. E. Norton	14.00	+11.16 +392.9	London Prt Hlth	17.00	-21.00 -55.3	
Fitzwillton	86.00	+68.00 +377.8	UEI	141.00	-164.00 -53.8	
H. Young Hdg's	95.00	+74.00 +352.4	Rockware Group	20.00	-29.00 -53.8	
Executee Clothes	48.00	+37.00 +336.4	Leisuretime Int'l	48.00	-54.72 -52.3	
Saxon Oil	246.00	+188.51 +327.9	Blackwood Hodge	9.00	-10.25 -53.2	
Fleet Holdings	138.00	+105.30 +317.1	Immediate BS Sys	116.00	-107.42 -48.1	
Garford-Lilley	89.00	+74.00 +308.3	TSL Thermal Synd	42.00	-38.50 -47.8	
	3/1/83	29/12/83	High	775.20	Aveo	693.14
FT 30 Share Index	595.9	772.50	Low	598.40		
			Aveo	693.14		
FTA All-Share Index	382.22	488.89	22/12/83	12/1/83		
		+22.68%	470.01	305.22		
			28/12/83	3/1/83		

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I enclose a copy of my/our account statement.  
Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Full name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
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By Andrew Cornelius

Allianz has reserved the right to sell its stake at above the 700p level agreed with BAT.

BAT will post full details of its offer to shareholders with a letter from Eagle Star urging them to accept the offer within the next few days.

Eagle Star shares fell from 714p to close at 692p yesterday, while shares of BAT finished 11p up at 177p.

Sir Denis Mountain, chairman of Eagle Star, described the prospects for the group under BAT's ownership as exciting.

His personal stake in the company is now worth £3.29m, against £2.7m, when the bidding began with a 500p per share offer from Allianz in October.

All the parties to the deal declared themselves happy with the outcome of the negotiations, but it is still possible that a mystery bidder will enter the fray before the January 18 closing date for the BAT offer terms.

If another bid does emerge,

### State 'must cut levies on industry'

By David Young

Costs imposed on industry by central and local government must be cut if the economic recovery started in 1983 is to accelerate next year, Sir Terence Beckett, director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, said yesterday.

Sir Terence, in an end-of-year message, also said that prices must be held down by keeping wage settlements down. That is paramount in the battle against inflation.

For much of industry and commerce the situation was still "fragile", he said.

"My greatest concern is that the recovery should be sustained. There is a long way to go: there are still more than 3 million people in Britain without jobs. If we are to help them to find work we must do everything we can to ensure that British products and services are competitive in world markets — not only in price but in quality, design, performance and in after-sales service."

"We must make the goods that people want, not those we think they ought to have."

"The bulk of the task is for management, but Government must help by creating the right economic climate."

#### WALL STREET

### Dow slips in mixed trading

New York (AP-Dow Jones) — Share prices rose in continued light trading yesterday, reversing an opening loss. However, by noon they had slipped again. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was 0.30 points lower at 1259.87.

Advances were about level with falling shares.

AMR Corp was trading at 36. up 1% on a volume of 314,300 shares, including a block of 242,000 at 35%, that traded shortly after the opening. United Airlines was up 1% at 36.5, and Delta was 1% higher at 39.5.

Some traders are believed to be continuing to adjust their portfolios for the New Year and to be engaged in some tax selling. Despite the expected slowdown, 1983 will be the busiest year in the 191-year history of New York Stock Exchange with more than 21 billion shares changing hands. This exceeds 1982's 16.5 billion.

The investors who had not already left for the New Year's holiday weekend were likely to be restricted by uncertainty about the Federal Reserve's money supply figures, due out after the market closed.

Foreign bankers yesterday acknowledged Mexico's recent economic progress with a \$3.8 billion (£2.6 billion) 10-year loan to meet its 1984 requirements. Terms of the new loan are considerably easier than those attached to the £25 billion commercial bank credit signed last February.

Mexico's debts still total about £83 billion. But the country has cut inflation from 100 per cent in 1982 to 53.8 per cent in the first eight-months of this year and the economy is improving fast.

A British banker said yesterday: "There is still some way to go. But the Mexicans have managed this extraordinary performance by not only complying with the expectations of outsiders, especially in terms of scrupulously making interest payments, but in many cases going beyond them".

The main achievement was to cut the national budget deficit from 17 per cent of gross

## Allianz accepts BAT's £966m bid for Eagle

Star once the takeover is formally concluded is

18.

Allianz said that it had decided to pull out of the bidding ahead of the 4.30pm deadline for final bids set by the Takeover Panel. It could not achieve its original aim of gaining a significant stake in Eagle rather than winning full control.

Allianz will use the proceeds from the sale of its holding in Eagle to enhance its capital base.

The profit from the sale of shares, which were first acquired in a dawn raid two years ago, also leave the group well positioned to develop other opportunities for international expansion, including further takeover opportunities in the London insurance market.

The fierce bidding for Eagle has led to calls backed Sir Denis, for government guidelines to protect other British composite insurance companies from foreign takeover.

## Good start to account

Hopes for a prosperous New Year kept the equity market on the boil yesterday as share prices opened the new account on a firm note. The FT Index managed to end last week's run of 776.2 during the day, but closed below its base levels of yesterday 3.2 up at 775.7.

Once again most of the serious investment advice was centred on the leaders, but turnover remained low, with dealers making the most of an early start to the New Year festivities. Gilt showed little inclination to move from their overnight positions, despite high hopes for the economy in 1984 by several analysts.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 775.7 up 3.2

FT Gilt: 83.12 down 0.03

FT All Shares: 470.5 up 1.61

Bargain: 17.014

Dataram: 16.5 up 1.77

New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: [latest] 1259.55 down 0.61

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones index closed

Hong Kong: Hang Seng index 874.94 down 2.21

Amsterdam: 161.8 unchanged

Sydney: AO Index 1004.4 up 1.4

Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1041.7 unchanged

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# Bout of contrary thinking on prospects for gilts

An uncanny unanimity, bordering on complacency, has overcome the gilts market. Open any stockbroker's circular these days and the argument is the same.

The US Federal Reserve policy will not change much, inflation is under control at an acceptable level, the British Government's borrowing requirement could fall appreciably. Therefore, gilt yields will be more or less the same this time in 1984.

Such broadly based agreement about prospects instinctively brings a bout of contrary thinking. At the most general level, something will go wrong in 1984.

President Reagan may drop dead (although that might disturb the markets less than the demise of Mr Paul Volcker); wars in the Middle East might cause oil prices to soar, the British Government's appetite for banana skins might reach Billy Bunter proportions.

But since these and similar eventualities are by definition unpredictable, speculating on their impact on interest rates and yields of fixed-interest securities is a parlour game.

More instructive are the forces at work within the gilts market now. A useful line of inquiry here is the extent to which British interest rates will be a function of American rates in 1984.

First, a disclaimer. There is no doubt that for a host of political, investment and cultural reasons the dollar will remain an attractive currency.

It may suffer from the huge and mounting American trade deficit and it is a reasonable argument that as the yield gap between American and other investments narrows the flow of capital into the US will slow. But the international financial climate will continue to derive its essential character from Washington.

Nevertheless, the fact that key indicators around the world are merging suggests that local policy and events can exert more influence. Broadly speaking, by the end of 1984 inflation rates in the European Community and in the US will be the same (say 5 per cent) and

such differences as will persist will be offset by the low nominal inflation rate and the diminution of inflationary expectations.

In this clement climate -

which will be prolonged if

President Reagan is returned to

office - local factors such as the

British Government's funding re-

quirement and the competi-

tion from within this country

for savings will possibly carry

more weight in the gilts market.

British interest rates and yields

will not be "de-linked" from

Wall Street, but the relative

importance of different ele-

ments in the connexion will alter.

The irony here is that the

notorious Public Sector Borrowing Requirement, so long the villain of all economic and financial analysis, is experiencing a rapid rehabilitation.

The outcome for 1983-84 is

forecast by City and govern-

ment at 29.500m to £10,000m.

Helped by further asset sales

during the next financial year,

nearly British Telecom, a

PSBR of £8,000m is quite

reassuring.

Not only is the PSBR less

demanding of private funds

(regardless of whether you

believe the Chancellor's threat

to raise taxes), but institutional

cash flow should increase in

1984 as well.

A 10 per cent rise over this

financial year's likely outcome

of about £14,000m is a reason-

able expectation. The result would be to bring gross gilt and asset sales back down to between 80 and 85 per cent of institutional cash flow, the level achieved in 1981-82 and 1982-83.

An interesting by-product of the decline in the fixation with the PSBR could be the waning of the intricate monetary analyses popular with some stockbrokers during the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Government policy, as repre-

sented by the government

borrower, will of course still be

vital, but it is conceivable that

the gilts market will be less

concerned about the arcane

monthly banking figures.

One new factor, however, to

which the market may pay

attention, especially in the

second half of 1984, is capital

investment. If the latest invest-

ment intentions are a guide,

gross fixed investment should

go up significantly faster, even if

the total may still be less than

the £41,600m (in 1980 prices)

recorded in 1979.

It is not surprising that

analysts are unwilling to break

the consensus and say that 1984

will not be good for gilts,

irrespective of what befalls the

equity market. But the fixed

interest market has been so

difficult for so long that one is

reluctant to herald a new dawn.

Michael Prest

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Jan/Feb

Mar/Apr

Andrew Cornelius on the change at the Takeover Panel

## Hignett bows out, defending a softly-softly approach to bids

Mr John Hignett, director general of the City Takeover Panel for 2½ years, retires this week with the City's code on takeovers and mergers intact and the principle of self-regulation confirmed.

The challenge left open to his successor, Mr Timothy Barker, a 43-year-old member of the corporate finance team at Kleinwort, Benson, is to combine successfully the roles of director general of the Panel and director general of the new Council for the Securities Industry. Mr Hignett took on responsibility for the two jobs last summer, but he admits that the new council, the ultimate watchdog of City affairs, is not yet functioning properly.

Its role will be more clearly defined next year when the Gower Report on investor protection will be published. Other committees established by the council on the over-the-counter market, the future of the Stock Exchange and the implementation of EEC directives in the City will also be ready to report next year.

As the council's workload builds up, so, too, will that of the director general. The additional burden will be added to that of the Takeover Panel where a dedicated team already works a 12-hour day, including many weekends.

Mr Hignett, who returns to Lazard as a managing director in the corporate finance department, had personally to monitor more than 150 bids in 1983 — perhaps the Panel's busiest year so far. The bids ranged from largely unpublicized takeover attempts such as that by Jorehaut Investments for the Badulipar Tea Company to the record-breaking bids for Eagle Star Holdings by Allianz Versicherungen of West Germany, and BAT Industries.

The Eagle Star bid has been one of the toughest for Mr Hignett and his colleagues to handle. Before Christmas, they called a full meeting of the Takeover Panel, chaired by Mr Martin Jacomb, a vice-chairman of Kleinwort, Benson.

This was one of the rare occasions that Mr Hignett had to call the Panel members together to resolve a problem. Normally, his softly-softly approach, coupled with an occasional warning to bidders by means of a statement to the press, has been enough to curtail takeover excesses. This time, however, Mr Hignett was



Hignett's code intact

unable to win agreement from Eagle, Allianz and BAT on bringing a speedy conclusion to the bidding.

The panel was trying to maintain a balance between the interests of Eagle Star, whose business could possibly be damaged if the tit-for-tat bidding was prolonged, and the rights of shareholders who could be prevented from obtaining the best price for their shares if the bidding was concluded prematurely.

The panel's decision to set a deadline for the bidding at 4.30pm yesterday, however, sets a precedent.

### The tacticians have become better but I don't think the tactics have been dirtier

By insisting that there should be a shoot-out then, the panel opened the way for a last-minute sealed-envelope auction of Eagle Star.

Mr Hignett does not think it is the best way to resolve the company's future, but, he says, the panel had to reach a solution that was the fairest possible for each party even if it was not entirely satisfactory to all of them.

Though the takeover rules were tested to their limits by the bidding for Eagle Star, Mr Hignett suggests that the problems arose only because the two bidders remained in the battle for so long. He says the bid was made more complicated because it involved a foreign bidder and such large sums.

He adds: "The bidding for UDS went on much longer, but no one seemed to think the duration of the bid was a problem in that case."

The Panel judged that BPCC had entered dangerous waters by mentioning the percentage of acceptances on the telephone. Again the gentle reprimand was followed by publication of a guidance note which said that in future there should be a script for telephone calls in which financial advisers should vet vigorously from the point of view of the code's requirements.

A third area of concern will prompt a statement explaining the Panel's views in its next annual report.

This followed controversy over the definition of the existence of concert parties when Hawley Group was bidding for the Cope Allman leisure and packaging group.

The problem centred on whether Mr Michael Ashcroft, of Hawley Group, and Mr David Wickins, of British Car Auctions, were acting in concert.

He counters criticism of his softly-softly approach to the more controversial tactics employed in some bids by arguing that it is not the panel's job to interfere with tactics, except as a last resort.

On two occasions when the panel did intervene during the

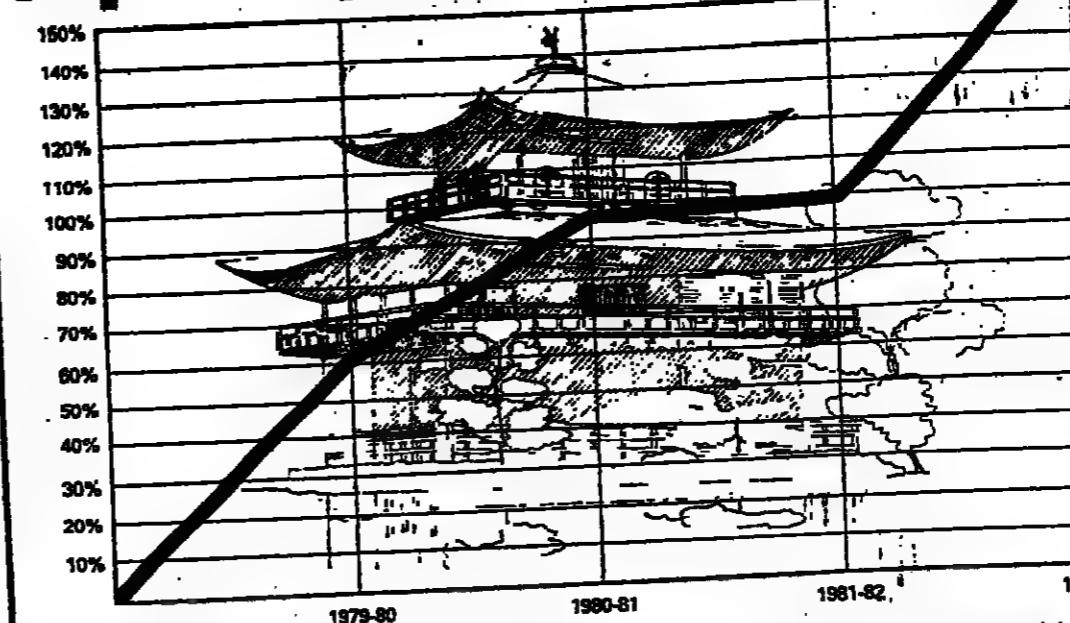
year, Mr Hignett chose to publicize a set of guidelines rather than force a big revision of the rulebook.

Thus when the tacticians in the BTR/Thomas Tilling and Trafalgar House/P&O bids decided to mount huge press advertising campaigns to persuade shareholders how to vote, the Panel made public a series of guidelines to govern the use of advertising. The panel also made use of its power to veto advertisements before publication.

In September, when the fiercely fought £1.8m bid for control of John Waddington by British Printing & Communication Corporation was reaching its final stages, the panel acted again. This time, the problem concerned statements made by BPCC to Waddington shareholders concerning the level of acceptances received for its offer.

Looking at the bid scene in 1984, Mr Hignett predicts that the City will see a great deal more arbitraging by American investors hoping to make profits by taking a position in British bids.

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The only fundamental change in the rule book while Mr Hignett was, at the panel provided the preponderance of dawn raids in the market. Yet, looking back at the rules introduced to control the raids, Mr Hignett wonders whether they are not excessively complicated.

The raids took place at the bottom of the market when there had not been much bid activity. The fact that most of those selling shares in these raids lost out would probably have been enough to quell down raids without the new rules, Mr Hignett adds.

Looking at the bid scene in 1984, Mr Hignett predicts that the City will see a great deal more arbitraging by American investors hoping to make profits by taking a position in British bids.

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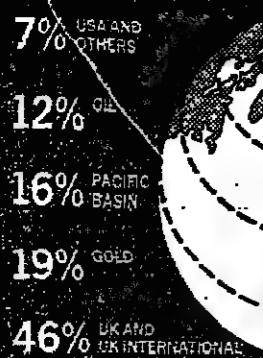
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**DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY.** A contract note will be sent to you stating exactly how much you owe and the settlement date. Your certificate will follow shortly.

**PLEASE INVEST** in ACCUMULATION/INCOME Units (delete as applicable or Accumulation units will be issued) at the price ruling on receipt of this application in the M&G International Growth Fund. (Minimum £1,000).

02 FULL FORENAME(S)  
SURNAME  
(Mr/Mrs/Miss)

04 ADDRESS

POST CODE

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## Divorce Bill

**'Self-sufficiency' can lead to maintenance cuts**

The Government's new Divorce Bill, expected to become law by early spring, has run into opposition from single-parent family groups. They are against its proposals on child support — or, more to the point, the lack of it. To be sure, the Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Bill is a bit of a dog's dinner.

It deals with a number of separate issues — allowing a split after one year of marriage, for instance (that has upset the clergy), promoting the concept of "a clean break" between the divorcing partners and sacrificing the whole thing by claiming it is putting the interests of children first. But is it?

Mr Paul Collins at One-Parent Families says: "Of course, we are all for putting children first. But we want substance, not rhetoric."

And the Bill is indeed rather short when it comes to explaining just how this admirable principle should be established, raising doubts that it is a pretence for reducing the amount of maintenance.

"Just saying it's in the interest of the children simply is not enough," points out Robbie Robson at Gingerbread. She believes single parents might end up with even less maintenance when the new Bill comes into force.

Traditionally, courts seem to award rather low sums for child maintenance. And whoever thinks that offspring are not quite as expensive to keep as an adult simply has not done the sums.

So, even if the courts are instructed under the Bill to deal with child maintenance first there is no guarantee this will result in more money being paid. But there was an important amendment recently announced by Lord Hallamish in the Lords, that will provide courts with the criteria on which to base child maintenance orders.

The guidelines will be those of the National Foster Care Association; an order would start at £26 a week for a child aged up to four, rising to £46 a week for a 16 or 17-year-old.

We are born with domicile and we shall die with domicile. For all but a few this will be the same one, even in cases where the greater part of a working lifetime has been spent somewhere else. It is, therefore, a very tenacious animal.

Domicile is of principal concern in capital transfer tax since the taxation of income depends more on whether its source is in Britain in which case it is always taxable no matter who receives the income, or if it is remitted to Britain.

However, it should not be forgotten that all income arising anywhere must be reported on tax returns by anyone who is both domiciled and resident in Britain for the tax year in question. Despite popular mythology, the remittance basis cannot apply to anyone who is domiciled in Britain except in extreme cases where it can be demonstrated that the income cannot be remitted.

So difficult is it to be rid of



This may solve one problem — the fact that registrars as well as spouses often do not realize the cost of keeping a child. But again, the actual amount is in the hands of the courts.

Gingerbread is still worried that overall single-parent family support might be reduced by the Bill. Robbie Robson says: "The court might award so much to the children and it could be a low figure and then pay a smaller amount to a mother on the grounds that she should be self-sufficient." And it is the principle of self-sufficiency that appears to many to be the thin end of a controversial wedge.

There have been soothing words from the Government to the effect that self-sufficiency (which replaces the notion that a wife is entitled to be kept for life) is only to be applied "where appropriate" and is not intended to hinder single parents bringing up children.

"If this is the intention," asks Robbie Robson, "why didn't they write this into the Bill in the first place?" She believes it will affect legal agreements.

Mother will be persuaded that is what the law actually intends, therefore they will not fight.

Fair enough, but the spectre of self-sufficiency has had the odd result of uniting the "Jam and Jerusalem" lobby, that thinks marriage is a job for life, with the feminists who have frequently said that it should not be.

Robbie Robson adds: "They

## Domicile

**Long arm of the Revenue**

domicile that it is well-nigh impossible to sandwich a period of non-domicile between two other periods. Thus, even where people go abroad with the intention of staying in another country for the rest of their days if circumstances dictate that they return to the United Kingdom, it is highly unlikely that they will be judged as having been domiciled anywhere but Britain for the whole period.

This produces some curious results, particularly for capital transfer tax. The legislation has

been so written that the principle of cumulation would apply to gifts of property made while abroad.

If an Arab living in Saudi Arabia wants to give to his son, also living in Saudi Arabia, a chunk of the Dorchester Hotel in London which he just happens to own, he is obliged to make a CTT return to the British tax authorities.

If all else fails, the Inland Revenue always has the S.478 of the Taxes Act 1970 to attack the returning expatriate. This gives the Revenue the right to tax a British resident on the income of an overseas person over whom he is deemed to have control.

For example, passing over assets before returning to Britain not only counts as a gift for CTT purposes but may still make the income from them liable to income tax.

Under British law, you take the domicile of your father at birth and can do nothing about it until you come of age.

Margaret Drummond

**Unit Trusts**  
**Important information for anyone investing in Unit Trusts**

If you had invested £1,000 with the managers of the Pidelity Japan Unit Trust last year they would have turned it into £2,182 on your behalf.

The managers of the Britannia Preference Share Unit Trust, however, would have reduced your £1,000 to £910 over the same period.

Thus the common financial fallacy that all Unit Trusts perform more or less equally, is exploded.

In fact, it has been possible since the emergence of Unit Trusts as a sound and worthwhile investment vehicle, to regularly measure profits.

The problem, though, is that it is hard to move your money from fund to fund, never tying up your capital for long periods of time.

The problem, with over 500 approved funds to choose from, is where you should invest and for how long.

The logical and proven way to make money

Unit Trust Moneymaker is a brand new monthly newsletter created specially to advise both professional and private investors. It is only available by private subscription — you will not find it in any newsagent.

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Please pay to the order of Stenhouse Publications Ltd., 57-61 Mortimer Street, London W1N 7TD, Knightbridge, 40-41, the sum of £46 two months after the date shown and thereafter on the anniversary of the date shown each year the sum of £25 being my membership subscription to Unit Trust Moneymaker and debit my/our account accordingly and countermanded by me in writing.

UTM 82

## Insurance

**Benefits of accident and health cover**

The horrific injuries suffered by the victims of the Harrods car bomb could easily have been minimised by drunken Christmas drivers, bring home all too powerfully the unpleasant fact that we are three times more likely to be injured or disabled than we are to die prematurely.

Yet accident and disablement insurance has one of the lowest take-ups of all types of insurance and permanent health insurance is often considered a risk.

Both accident and permanent health insurance provide benefits if a person is injured and unable to work but they are very different types of policies.

Accident and disablement policies tend to be annual contracts — the sort where you pay a premium, but the insurer has no responsibility to continue the cover after one year if he no longer wants to insure the risk.

Personal accident policies usually pay a lump sum for accidental death, loss of one or more limbs or eyes, with lesser amounts for the loss of fingers or toes. They may also pay a weekly sum for temporary or permanent total disablement for a maximum of 104 weeks.

The Pru, for example, sells a policy which offers £10,000 accidental death benefit plus £10,000 for loss of an eye or loss of a limb (more generous than loss of a limb). There is also a £20-a-week benefit for up to 104 weeks for temporary total disablement, or £10 a week for temporary partial disablement, premium for someone in a sedentary occupation would be £15 a year.

Most people in white collar jobs will continue to receive their salary for some weeks — often months — if they are sick, so you can afford to defer your benefit payments. For a 13-week deferral period, cover for a non-working wife of 40, benefit payable to age 60 at a rate of £50 a week, would cost £58.67 a year. Benefit of £150 a week for a man aged 45, payable to age 65, works out at £230.50 a year.

Personal health cover can be expensive unless you are prepared to accept a "deferral" period — a waiting time between being off work through illness and the start of the benefits.

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**How (and where) on earth do you choose****THE BEST INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY?**

AMERICA? TECHNOLOGY? JAPAN? ENERGY? EUROPE? PROPERTY?  
BRITAIN? COMMODITIES? AUSTRALIA? GILTS? SINGAPORE? CURRENCIES?

If you really want to be a successful investor, you will want to know all about the Special Market Fund — and its unique approach to making money.

The strategy is to place your money in the early stages of booming markets in different parts of the world, to generate a profit, then to close the investment position and switch the funds — lock, stock and barrel — into new opportunities in other markets.

This philosophy involves an above average degree of risk and does not have the security of a building society. However, the potential rewards are many, many times greater:

Over the last 12 months\*  
Building Society +6.8%  
Special Market Fund +33.7%

Over the last 24 months\*  
Building Society +16.4%  
Special Market Fund +54.0%

\*For the 12 months to 1.7.83, after the reinvestment of net income.

The managers of this really special fund are advised by Henderson, who themselves have been the top performing major unit trust group over the last 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 years. (Sources: Planned Savings magazine)

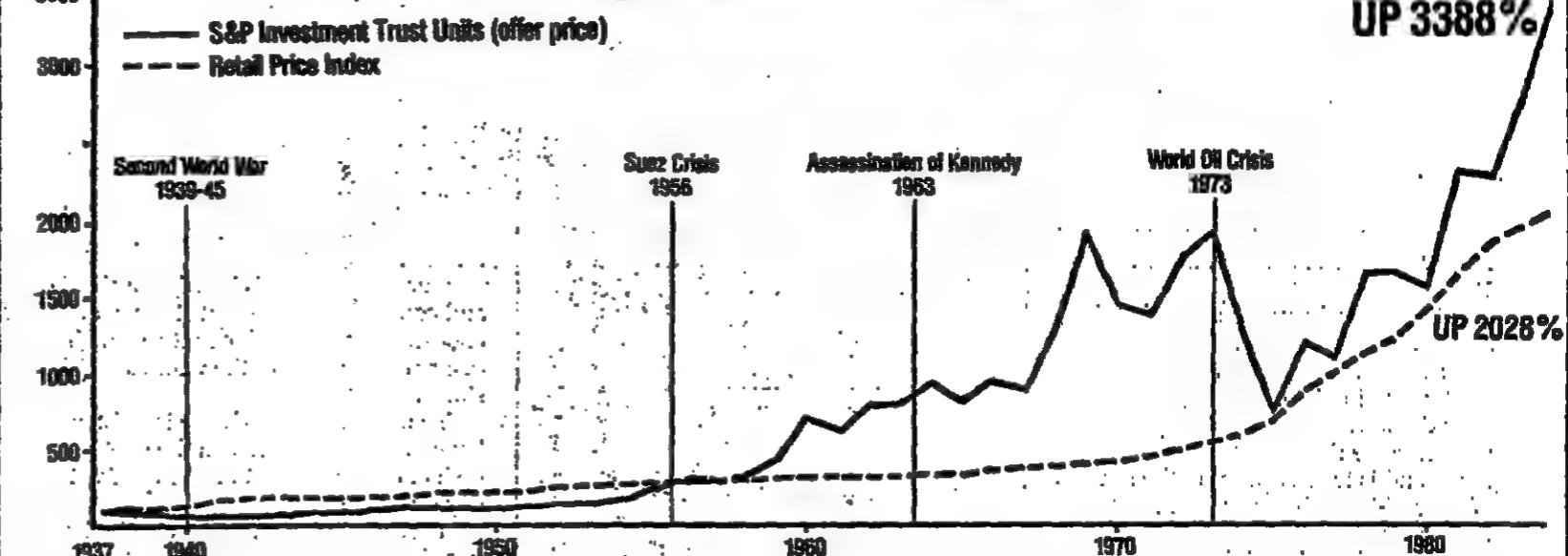
To: R. J. Temple & Company, Principal Administration Office, Temple House, 37 Grand Parade, Brighton, Sussex BN2 2GA. Telephone: 0273 673136.  
Please send me full details of the unique Special Market Fund.

I am interested in: Lump sum investment  Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Regular Savings (with tax relief)  Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please tick as appropriate)  
Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

AN R.J. TEMPLE RECOMMENDED INVESTMENT

UP 3388%

UP 2028%

**Save & Prosper Investment Trust Units****Share in the proven strength of Investment Trust Units****Excellent performance**

The fund's overall record has been outstanding. Recent performance is, however, the most relevant. In the year to 20th December 1983 the offer price of units rose by 32.3%, compared with a 21.3% rise in the FTA All-Share Index, and over the last 4 years by 135.7% against 99.7% in the FTA All-Share Index.

**Investment prospects**

We believe that prospects for investment trust shares are good, now that steps have been taken to remedy the difficulties faced during the 1970's. These problems resulted in a widening of the average discount between asset value and share price from 3.5% in 1972 to 35% in 1978. With the average discount now 25%, there is every reason to believe that current and future changes will have continued beneficial effects on share prices.

In addition many less successful trusts have been taken over, with improved investment performance prospects as a result; others have been converted into unit trusts. But more importantly, investment objectives have been changed to reflect the needs of

today's investors. The removal of capital gains tax in 1980 for investment trusts has enabled and encouraged their managements to adopt more flexible and aggressive policies.

Now that the world is moving out of recession, in our opinion the investment trust sector is well positioned to profit in the 1980s.

**About Save & Prosper**

Founded in 1934, Save & Prosper is Britain's largest unit trust group and a major force in life assurance, pensions and annuities. On 1st December 1983 the Group managed funds of £1,800 million.

**Apply today for units**

To invest, simply complete and return the coupon with your cheque. Investments of £1,000 or more received by 20th January 1984 qualify for a 2% free allocation of units. The cost of this free allocation is borne entirely by the Managers. The offer price of units in the fund on 20th December 1983 was 59.4p and the estimated gross starting yield was 3.10% p.a.

Remember that the price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

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Until 20th January  
2% FREE ALLOCATION OF UNITS**

When you invest £1,000 or more in this unit trust

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Dealing in units in the fund may normally be bought or sold on any working day. Certificates will normally be forwarded within 10 working days. When units are sold back to the Managers, payment is normally made within 7 days of our receiving renounced certificates. Prices and the yield are quoted in leading newspapers.

Net income distributions 31st May and 30th November each year.

Charges There is an initial charge not exceeding 3.35% plus a rounding adjustment not exceeding the lower of 1% or 2.5%.

Commission (if rates available on request) will be paid to authorised professional advisers. There is also a half-yearly charge of 1% of the value of the fund plus VAT. This is deducted from the fund's assets to meet Managers' expenses, including Trustee's fees.

Safeguards The fund is authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and is a 'widerrange' investment under the Trustee Investments Act 1961. The Trustee is Bank of Scotland.

Managers Save & Prosper Securities Ltd., 4 Great St. Helens, London EC3P 3EP. Telephone: 0171 669866.

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# INVESTMENT QUIZ 1984

During 1983, a return of 20% was commonplace. But what will 1984 be like? Will you be able to enjoy returns on this scale?

We believe that knowing the markets inside out is vital for success. We also believe that knowing the market dealers is important. And that's why our advice counts.

If you think you know all there is to know about investment, try taking a break from the festivities to answer these questions:

- 1 Which of these stockmarkets produced the greatest growth in 1983?  
A Japan  
B USA  
C UK  
D Australia
- 2 Which of these countries has the largest increase in industrial production in the last 12 months?  
A Canada  
B USA  
C Japan  
D Australia
- 3 If you'd invested in a unit trust investing in the USA on 1.1.83, how much would the weakness of sterling have been worth to you?  
A 1%  
B 2%  
C 11%  
D 5%
- 4 In the past twelve months, one major economy has managed to keep its inflation rate below 1%. Which country is it?  
A Switzerland  
B West Germany  
C Japan  
D USA
- 5 Which of these markets is our recommendation for 1984?  
A Japan  
B USA  
C Canada  
D Australia

To Reed Stenhouse Gibbs,  
FREEPOST, London SW1W 0BR (no stamp required).  
Tel: 01-730 8221.

Please contact me with details of your "Strategy For 1984" — without delay.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Present Income £ \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Tax Rate \_\_\_\_\_

Amount sum available for investment £ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount available for regular savings £ \_\_\_\_\_ per year/month

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**REED STENHOUSE GIBBS**

## Savings

### Banking on the girls of St Brandon's

St Brandon's, a private girls' school at Clevedon, Bristol, is the 25th school to set up its own bank under a Midland Bank scheme to attract new savers.

Midland has attracted more than 35,000 customers from its high street rivals with the scheme working on the principle that most account holders stay with the same bank throughout their lives.

The bank's initiative of taking its services into schools has exceeded its expectations. A Midland spokesman said: "It is impossible to say how many of those savers we would have got through the normal process of children having accounts opened for them by relatives and so on but clearly quite a fair proportion have been newly-won."

Midland considered the idea of a pilot scheme in a junior school, but is at present attacking the 11-plus market.

It launched the scheme last September, at the beginning of the autumn term, after three trials in secondary school in 1981.

These experiments — at schools in Mexborough, near Sheffield, Horsforth, Leeds, and Burton-on-Trent — showed that about 25 per cent of pupils were prepared to save with school banks.

A key factor was that school hours tended to clash with bank branches — except for Barclays branches, which have since started to open on Saturday morning — meaning that children could not gain access to their cash.

Banks have a somewhat forbidding image, compared

with the smiling faces shown by building societies on television.

Midland asked its local managers to invite schools to join the scheme and stress its benefits as an introduction to modern saving techniques, and an educational tool for older children studying economics.

Bank staff chosen for their ability to communicate with young people, visit the school in the early stages with advice. Later, the scheme is taken over by parents or sixth-formers under the guidance of teachers.

New account holders receive geometry sets, and paying-in and withdrawal books which are designed like cheque books.

There are no minimum accounts. The Midland spokesman said: "We accept anything above nothing, although our early experience shows that the average balance is about £5."

Children, tend to save, if at all, for specific occasions, such as Christmas presents-buying or for holiday spending cash.

The money is banked at the local branch. Midland said most money was processed through the school accounts, with only cheques being paid in by the school bankers. But it would accept liability for any cash that was stolen or lost.

It can afford to be magnanimous. By paying only the deposit account interest rate of 5.5 per cent and effectively getting other people to do its small-scale accounting work, it appears to have hit on a new account-attracting winner that would take huge advertising or promotion to replace

John Lawless

REED STENHOUSE GIBBS

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FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

## Investment forecasts

## For 1984 read Japan all the way

This time last year we asked some financial experts to give their views on 1983 - what opportunities or pitfalls did they foresee for investors? Although it has been a vintage year for virtually all world stock markets, our panel of professionals did not exactly give some first-class advice.

First prize must go to Mr Stuart Goldsmith, investment director of the Britannia Unit Trust Group, who recommended his Hong Kong Performance Fund. That turned out to be one of the year's worst performers. His other selections did better, though not spectacularly well. Investors will have seen gains of about a quarter in Britannia's American Smaller Companies Fund and Special Situation Trust. And his other selection, the Britannia World Technology Trust, had grown by 38 per cent over the year.

But Mr Goldsmith was not the only one of our experts to get his predictions wrong. Mr Richard Kanz of Rothschild pronounced himself "very bullish" about gold and this has been a tale of woe for most of the year. The price is now \$389 an ounce, compared with \$474 at the time he tipped it.

Mr Michael Fletcher of Abbey Life was clearly worried about 1983. He thought the period of real returns for investors would be over by now.

People were advised, in his view to switch to inflation-hedge investments like property (flat as a pancake all year) or index-linked gilts (a little flatter, but basically dull).

This year was definitely not the one to be holding hedge-type investments. No, 1983 was the time when an investor could buy virtually any unit trust and make a gain - get it really right and you could have doubled your money. It was also the year of 1984, stock markets will have gone just about as far as they are going to go.

Mr Adrian Collins of Gartmore recommends caution. "I can't see them making



The experts (from left) - Tracey: yen undervalued; Hughes: housing top value; Collins: global strategy and Lipworth: Japan and US allied choices.

## Savings

## Decision time for index-linked bonds

Holders of index-linked National Savings certificates, (formerly known as 'Granny Bonds') who had been hanging on until the end of October to qualify for the 2.4 per cent tax-free bonus, now have to make up their minds whether to stick it out or to take their cash and move elsewhere.

NSB has reinforced the waning attraction of "grannies", brought about

by lower inflation rates, by adding another 2.4 per cent for those holders who keep their bonds for a further year.

Compounded up, this gives slightly more than a 4.8 bonus for those who hold on for the full two years - on top of the index-linked increase, which is at present running at 4.8 per cent itself, but likely to move over 5 per cent per annum.

Non-taxpayers should

definitely make a move. The 11 per cent return on the NSB Investment Account is far better than anything which can be expected from index-linked savings certificates over the coming year. If income is not a priority, the new Deposit Bond from National Savings with a minimum investment of £500 offers an extra 0.5 per cent at 11.5 per cent but it is not so

flexible as NSB Investment Account.

Higher rate taxpayers should definitely stay put. Inflation is expected to run at around 6.5 to 7 per cent over the coming year which will give a return of around 9 to 9.5 per cent taking into account the 2.4 per cent bonus. This is tax-free and better than the after-tax return from any comparable investment.

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In the opinion of many experts, world markets generally seem poised to move ahead in 1984. So now would seem an excellent time to consider investing in an international fund.

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At Oppenheimer, we are highly experienced in this type of fund management. Since we have offices in London and New York, and managers with specialist knowledge of other markets,

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\*For 12 months to 1st December, 1983. Source: Planned Savings.

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**Oppenheimer**

## Entertainment Investors go for record profits

The glamour of the entertainment industry often attracts investment on the most spurious of grounds.

Most fund-raising schemes in the sector would not see daylight if they had to meet the criteria of usual City or banking requirements.

But the world of pop music is often able to generate funds on a basis where common sense is lost somewhere between the twinkle in a potential 'angel's' eyes and the signing of a cheque.

A lease and asset financing broker, Mr Cyril Gillis, found himself arranging the finance for recording studio and video facilities when he discovered the money-making potential of a successful pop group.

He manages an off-the-shelf company called Numberdown, an unfortunate name for a promoter attempting to get records up the charts, and is successfully selling 100,000 £1-shares for an equity stake under the tax advantages of the Government's Business Expansion Scheme.

So far the wealthy patrons have been "mainly stockbrokers and farmers," said Mr Gillis.

Numberdown, just four months old, has no assets other than its Surrey offices and a 10 per cent of gross contract with its first rock group, called England, which has just released its first single, *Victorian*.

The group is in the process of making a double album. Counting studio time, 10 weeks in England's case, it will cost between £20,000 and £40,000 to get the project on tape.

When that is completed Mr Gillis hopes to have the band adopted by a major record company which would then release the records.

A successful group can gross between £14m and £15m over a five-year period, working on the assumption that two albums a year are successful and that there are enough singles-chart hits to maintain support.

But Numberdown is a make or break investment. As Mr Gillis admits, there may be no returns on the project. England will not be the only band in which Numberdown invests and he hopes to involve the company in studios and record manufacturing.

Margaret Drummond

## How to make a profit in 1984

If you have capital or annual income in excess of £20,000 you can now benefit from FREE investment advice. As your introduction to our Investment Management Service, Menzies Mercantile will provide you with a detailed written appraisal showing exactly how you can achieve your personal investment objectives. There is absolutely no charge for this investment appraisal. A well prepared strategy will be essential in 1984.

Menzies Mercantile is an independent Company, fulfilling the needs of the medium sized investor. We provide a high standard of professional, personalised, financial advice and investment management which is essential in the modern investment environment. For full details, in confidence and without obligation, simply complete and return the coupon.



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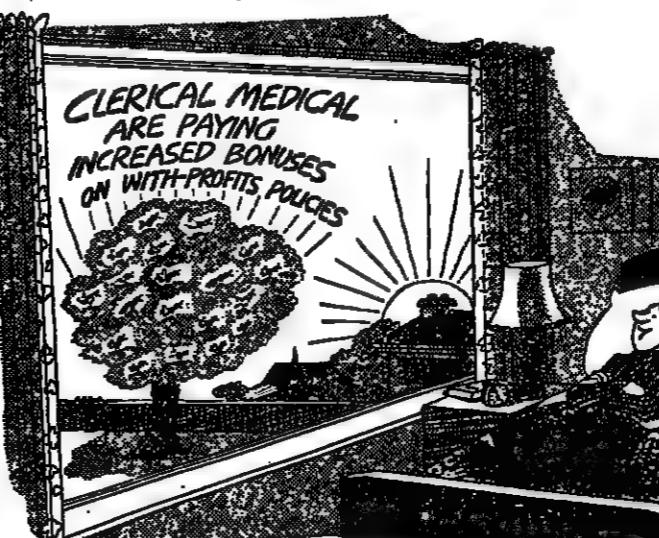
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## INVESTORS NOTEBOOK

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS  
EVERY DAY

# Now, highest-ever bonus rates from Clerical Medical



Now that's what I call a down chorus!

Thinking of starting a savings plan in 1984? Consider this.

We've just announced record bonus rates on our with-profits policies.

For the years 1981-1983 inclusive, bonus will be added on all ordinary with-profits policies, effected since 1946, at the rate of 49.00 per annum compound for every £1,000 of sum assured and attaching bonuses.

Policies effected before 1946 will also receive increased bonus additions.

Terminal bonus, which is payable when a policy becomes a claim because of death or maturity, is also now being added at an increased rate of 70% of the other bonuses to which a policy is entitled.

Good news for our existing policyholders, of course: the record bonuses will greatly increase the value of their policies.

A £20 a month policy, for example, started ten years ago would have built up into a handsome tax-free cash sum of £4,130 today, for an actual gross outlay of £2,400!

For most people income tax relief (now life assurance premium relief) would have reduced the gross outlay by at least 15%, providing a return equivalent to a net annual yield of 12.5% (worth 17.8% per annum to a basic rate taxpayer).

Good news for you, too. Our record 1983 bonus rates are the latest in a long line of outstanding bonus results.

In fact, our actual payouts have been so good that we're

consistently in the 'top ten' performance tables. And, from now on, we'll be adding bonuses annually.

So, if you want a very secure way to build up a tax-free sum, or are interested in saving money overall on your mortgage repayments, there couldn't be a better time to contact us.

Remember, too, we've just announced record bonuses on our Personal Pension plans as well.

Of course, future bonuses depend on future profits so that we can't guarantee bonus rates will be as high in the future.

But our record of giving value for money is excellent (just ask your insurance adviser). And, with inflation at lower levels, our policies could well be of even greater real value to you.

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— TRADITIONALLY, GREAT PERFORMERS —

Savings**Gateway to a Gold Star account**

Initiation is supposed to be the sincerest form of flattery, but in the competitive world of building society investment accounts it sometimes causes a few ruffled feathers.

The Gateway, fifteenth largest society in the country, is launching a Gold Star account which pays 1 per cent above standard rate per cent above - no notice and no withdrawal penalty.

The minimum investment is £1,000; but accounts with more than £5,000 qualify for monthly interest payments, which lifts the net rate of interest from 8.25 to an effective 8.75 per cent. If the balance falls below £1,000, interest is paid at 7.25 per cent.

The Cheltenham and Gloucester, the twelfth biggest, believes this is a copy of Cheltenham's Gold Account. A spokesman said: "We don't take exception to it. But it is a straight crib. The terms are identical - even the name is a straight crib."

Cheltenham Gold was extremely successful when it was launched in April, 1981. So many savers opted for the bonus that the account was suspended six months later for two months.

Mr Alan North, Gateway's assistant general manager, said: "We feel that it is the sort of account that is right for Gateway."

**Building societies plan 20% lending rise**

Four of the top five building societies said yesterday that they expect to increase their lending by around 20 per cent in 1984, and in some cases much more.

If a rise of a fifth were repeated across the industry, as seems likely, total society lending in the coming year could top £23,000m for the first time.

**WHAT THE SOCIETIES SAY**

**HALIFAX:** Expect to increase its probable 1983 lending figure of £3.6 billion by more than 20 per cent.

**ABBEY NATIONAL:** Will lend £3.1 billion in 1983 and intends to lend £3.7 billion in 1984.

**NATIONWIDE:** Will maintain a high monthly lending level of between £130m and £140m.

**LEEDS:** Definitely going to increase lending by 20 per cent.

**WOOLWICH:** The 1984 target of £1.3 billion is 25 per cent up on 1983's £1.048m.

Even allowing for a probable increase in house prices of 10 per cent, the rise is still substantial. It compares with £19,000m lent this year and just £15,000m in 1982.

The number of loans advanced during the last two years have increased from £61,000 to about £95,000. And if the upper limit of lending potential is reached, the 1984 total should

not surprise anyone.

Not surprisingly, it is also suggesting that the main factor that new borrowers must



Rising demand: More home-lending should keep queues down in 1984.

consider in the coming year will be how much they pay for their new mortgages.

This certainly applies in Greater London. The average loan of one of its main competitors in that sector up to October was £25,546 even to first-time buyers - which would push the interest rate to 11% per cent. A loan of £40,000 might cost more than 13 per cent.

A smaller society serving the same area has a differential that starts at £12,500, which would mean that at £25,000-plus (and perhaps even lower) the rate would be 12½ per cent.

They have recently had record inflows: worth £987m in

October and £870m in November, compared with £763m and £490m in November and December (traditionally a quiet month for savers, of course) last year.

Another complicating factor may be that the big banks will move back slightly into the mortgage market - although in nothing like the fashion in which they competed for home loans in 1982, when they took 36 per cent of the business.

On the other hand, hand, the demand for money for council house purchases - which num-

bered about 80,000 in 1983 - is expected to level off. However, the increase in general economic activity is already being reflected in a push towards buying more expensive homes, even though the current high level of house-building may be pegged back a little in 1984.

Having virtually been trying to pull people off the streets to borrow in 1981 and in the first part of 1982, the societies saw November of the latter year produce a record in terms of new commitments, of £1,769m. March this year was a peak £1,905m, but November's was still £1,836m - with demand continuing to grow.

The substantial injection of new funds is undoubtedly a move to cut queues without necessarily chopping rates - which some leading societies, nevertheless, would like to see fall, as soon as demand looks as though it may be satisfied. They insist that, even at 11½ per cent, their loans are not expensive.

But they have an ulterior motive to reduce liquidity ratios, so that assets can earn more than they can when placed outside their "home" market. The seasonally-adjusted ratio - which measures liquid assets to total assets - stood at 18.8 per cent at the end of 1982.

However, with the way things are going, it could fall below its lowest-ever point (of 17.4 per cent) in 1984.

John Lawless

**Tax shelters****New Year spree for workshops**

An increasing number of people are setting out with New Year's resolutions to buy a small workshop - the sort that qualifies for a 100 per cent capital allowance.

The industrial building allowance (IBA) which was introduced by the 1980 Finance Act, has created a thriving market for these tax shelters.

Now there is a list of suitable properties available to investors, accountants, and estate agents for a £10 fee. The IBA register gives outline details of the workshops inquirers are given the name, address and telephone number of the developer or selling agent so they can negotiate directly.

The December list of 136 IBA workshops ranged from a £43,000 complex in Dartford, Kent, with two units of 1,205 sq ft and three units at 2,375 sq ft, to a workshop in Wincanton, Somerset, with two units of 600 sq ft for £16,250.

The IBA register is published by Mercoast, Hove, Sussex.

Mr Brett Hoskins, chairman of Mercoast, said that the register was launched because the scramble for tax shelters as the financial year drew to a close meant that some investors had to settle for other schemes because they could not find the time to seek out a suitable workshop.

**Expansion****Exotic Airleisure brings bounce to fringe market**

One of the strangest beneficiaries of the Government's Business Expansion Scheme is about to make its share debut on one of the City's growing collection of fringe, over-the-counter markets.

Licensed dealers Hill Woolgar is launching Airleisure Products on its over-the-counter market after a successful placing among its 1,000 shareholders.

Whether Airleisure is the sort of company the Government had in mind for the scheme is perhaps a matter for conjecture. Nevertheless, Airleisure meets the scheme's requirements even if it is a colourful venture engaged in fields which must seem strange to many of the investors who brought at least partly for tax reasons, its shares.

The group, trading for less than a year, makes exotic products such as disco bouncers and breaker beds.

Breaker beds are, inflated dance floors with disco-style colouring and lighting. Aimed at clubs, community centres and hotels this creation is designed for aerobic exercises.

A disco bouncer is a portable contraption on which youngsters combine dance with bouncing.

Investors who have acquired share through the Hill Woolgar placing at 58p each should qualify for the scheme's tax

benefits which could reduce the cost of a £10,000 investment to £4,000. But they must hang on to their shares for five years.

Airleisure is the creation of Mr Michael Cooper, aged 43, who used to run discos and nightclubs. He has a five-year service agreement at £27,500 a year and will collect 5 per cent commission when profits top £400,000. His wife Suzanne, the administration director, has a five year £15,000 a year service contract.

**Base Lending Rates**

ABN Bank	9%
Baird	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	110%
Consolidated Credit	9%
Hoare & Co	9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

\* Average Remuneration  
† Year ended 30 June 1983  
£10,000, 5% CASHBACK  
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## RUGBY UNION

## Insult of old score added to their newly injured pride has Bristol bristling

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Bristol, the John Player Cup holders, having overcome an indifferent start to the season, can this afternoon put an unbeaten month behind them as they face 1984. Standing in their way at the Memorial Ground are Llanelli, who are looking for a double after defeating Bristol 33-0 in October at Rodney Park.

There may be an element of injured pride working on Bristol's behalf. Forty-seven players will gather at Twickenham next Saturday for the England trial and only two of them, Barnes at stand-off and Kibbs at centre, are from Bristol. Knibbs is a replacement, a status not accorded to Hesford, the No 8, who returns against Llanelli after recovering from a shoulder injury in the victory over Leicester a fortnight ago.

Llanelli brings a reserve front row across the Severn Bridge, husbanding their resources for the meeting with Newport on Monday. They have rested Douglas today and give Griffiths, a Welsh Youth cap last season, a game at scrum half; but their back division includes four capped players in Gravell, Morgan, Donavan and Pearce.

Fielding seriously weakened teams because of trial demands are Gloucester, Bath and Leicester, who have potentially demanding games today. Gloucester, beaten by Lydney over Christmas, travel to Bridgend with Sargent, Blakeway and Orwin added to their pack. Bath, who are at home to Northampton, restore Trevaskis to the left wing and play

Pontypool lock sent off

Pontypool's disciplinary record this season declined further yesterday when Kevin Moseley, their lock, was sent off during the 34-13 victory over Newbridge. Moseley, aged 20, was dismissed after only six minutes by Derek Bevan, the Welsh referee, during handling of the game between the Midlands and the New Zealanders last month at Rodney Park. He was sent off for a foul at the beginning of the month. Moseley, the Wasps captain, will appear again for the second team against Stockwood Park today and will make his first senior appearance of an injury-plagued season on Monday.

There are two London derbies today: Harlequins at home to London Scottish and Richmond at home to Saracens. Richmond will be without Jameson, their South African scrum half, and Evans, their injured hooker, whose place goes to Roland, a debutant.

Midlands derby brings together Nottingham and Nuneaton and could ensure for Nottingham, the host club, a place in the top five of the merit table and automatic inclusion in next season's John Player Cup third round.

Nottingham have beaten Moseley, Bedford and Rugby and drawn with Coventry. This season's Welsh merit table.

Gloucester have seven players in the trial, Bath four and Leicester six, one of whom, Old Deer Park against London Welsh. The England centre

A wave of foreign players has invaded the French shores during the past two seasons. There should be nothing unusual in it, since rugby football is a touring game and players might decide to spend a season or two in another country after a tour, but the unprecedented magnitude has upset some clubs in France.

The French championship is highly competitive and the issue of imported players has led to bitter exchanges. Even the president of the French Federation, Albert Ferrasse, said that the regulations concerning the licensing of foreign players in France will have to be tightened.

The "foreign legion" come from a variety of places, like the Ivory

Cos, Poland, Morocco, South Africa, New Zealand, Romania, England, Wales and Sri Lanka. Those from Romania and Poland are mainly defectors who have settled in France for good but many from the West are simply recruited by some club presidents wanting to improve overall performance. At the moment, the big lock forwards, followed closely by kickers and scrum halves.

According to the licensing regulations of the French Federation, a foreign player wishing to play for a French club needs to be issued with a red, yellow or green licence. The green card is the most sought after since it allows the holder to play without restrictions

signed for Grenoble before the recent tour of the All Blacks when he was still technically uncapable.

Many clubs have exceeded their allowed quota of three foreign players. This can be achieved either after some of their players have become naturalised or by offering to those who become redundant a free transfer. Carcassonne, who are struggling at the bottom of the third division, have transferred their Australian prop, Peter Hoy, to a junior club to accommodate two huge South African locks, Reitz and Hugo, who arrived recently. Their third foreigner is the New Zealander, McLean.

Marseilles have recruited three South Africans without much

success, having managed to win only one game so far. The second division club, Fumel, were luckier and the arrival of their three South Africans gave them the much-needed boost to win three games in a row. However, foreign players have tended to provide only a limited impact on performances of their French clubs. The first division club, Bourg, has dismissed all their New Zealand guests, Dixon, Drake and Collinson, after the club president Michel Pontonnier complained about "the difficulties to settle professionally and socially players from the other end of the world".

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# Is it time for a twist in the modern tale of New Year?

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The ending of a modern Christmas tale is growing increasingly familiar. The club that decorates the top of the first division tree over the festive period have, on eight occasions in the last 11 years, finished the season by wearing the League crown. The only exceptions were Everton in 1975, Ipswich Town in 1977 and Manchester United in 1982.

The new rule was started by Liverpool, who have yet to break it. But apart from last year, when they were five points clear, their lead has been insubstantial. So it is now, and when the new year dawns Manchester United may be standing alongside them both at Anfield and at the head of the table.

Liverpool are to close the old year, in which they have suffered only eight League defeats, at Nottingham Forest, where the last five visitors have conceded 16 goals, scored three and left empty-handed. Indeed, since losing to Southampton on the opening day, Forest have dropped a mere four points; at home and have recently risen into contention themselves.

Liverpool, playing their sixth game in a fortnight, keep the same line-up as usual, even though Robinson has recovered from an ankle injury. Forest are also at full strength, but Brian Clough is expected to recall Todd, aged 33 and idle for the last six weeks, in place of Gunn at the heart of the defence.

United, whose championship lights began to dim in the same time last year, have yet to win a holiday fixture and are again unlikely to risk Robson this afternoon. Yet Stoke City, now led by a former Old Trafford favourite in McIlroy, have not won away so far this season and lie above only Wolverhampton Wanderers.

Not surprisingly during such

## Change that is no good for the rest

By Hugh Taylor

At Ibrox, Jock Wallace has staged one of the most spectacular transformations Scottish football has seen. In just six weeks, the new manager has turned Rangers from a team who has become the butt of pantomime comedians into a force once again respected and feared by all.

Five successive victories in the premier division testify to the success of Wallace's methods. While the big man, who backs commands like sergeant-major, is pleased with the change to such an extent that he is confident Rangers can win one of the two cups this season, he realises the team's real tests are yet to come.

"The start of the New Year will let me know whether we are men again, or still just boys," Wallace says. In quick succession, Rangers face Celtic, Aberdeen, and Dundee United in the premier division, and meet Feyenoord in a practice match.

"These clubs," Wallace says, "are among the best Europe. Not until we've played them will I know whether I have a team who will really satisfy me. But we've made a good start, and I know we have good quality players. I know boys have found their ambition again".

Wallace has today made a major selection decision. His dilemma comes with the return of McAdam and Redford, who have been injured but are ready for the match with St Mirren at Ibrox. However, their deputies Paterson and Fruyt played well against Dundee and Hibernian and the manager has to ponder the wisdom of changing a winning team.

St Mirren, who are managed by Alec Miller, once a player with the Rangers, are without a win so successfully in their first game at Ibrox, will provide strong resistance. But they lack sharpness in attack, and there should be no interruption of the home side's winning sequence.

Celtic, returning by the return of the elegant Burns after suspension, can earn the two points they so badly need at Easter Road to keep in touch with Aberdeen, the league leaders. As Hibernian have failed recently to maintain the pleasing form of last month.

Aberdeen, for their home game with Dundee at Pittodrie, may be without their international centre half, McLeish, who is injured. Yet their majestic march favours the championship is unlikely to be halted by lacklustre Dundee, who have still to respond to the coaching of their new manager, Archie Knox, who is Alec Ferguson's assistant at Aberdeen.

St Johnstone, who have surprised everyone with an energetic fight-back, should beat a Heart of Midlothian side whose early season sparkle has vanished. Dundee United, having recovered their confidence after an embarrassing decline in form, are firm favourites to beat Motherwell at Tannadice.

The Scottish League will issue their half-yearly attendance figures within the next fortnight and expect that they will reveal an improvement in gates.

The premier division, now in its eighth season, is proving especially popular. Around 1,20,000 people have watched 90 premier division matches so far compared with last season's total of 1,859,856 for 1982-83. For the first time in four seasons, the Scottish League anticipates a figure well in excess of two-million for the season.

The League secretary, Jim Farry, said: "We appear to be about five per cent up on last season's figures and that is a significant achievement in the current economic climate." Last season, attendances at premier division matches rose by 100,000.

a hectic week injuries are hampering all of their genuine rivals. Southampton, in third place and unbeaten this month, have doubts about Curtis and Mills for their visit to Highbury. Lawrie McMenemy, a possible candidate for Arsenal's managerial vacancy, stresses the importance of being in the frame by January. This is the time that shows which clubs have the strength to challenge seriously."

Those missing at Upton Park could form a stronger side than either of those that will be present. Although West Ham United's leading goalscorer, Swindhurst, is available after suspension, they are without Bonds, Allen, Goodard and Price. Tottenham Hotspur's position, both on and off the pitch, is even worse.

Their casualties include Hoddle, Brazil, Hughton, Galvin, Mabbett and Miller as well as Roberts, who starts his suspension. Keith Burkinshaw has brought in Bowen, aged 19, and Webster, aged 19 and the twenty-fourth player to be used since the middle of August.

Luton Town could be without Stephens and Aylott, both hurt during the defeat by West Ham on Tuesday, as well as Moss and Dunn at Sunderland. Although Hunt and Adams are back for Coventry City, the continuing absence of Gibson and Bamford may be more significant in their game at the heart of the defence.

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## Comeback delay for Cowans

By Hugh Taylor

At Ibrox, Jock Wallace has staged one of the most spectacular transformations Scottish football has seen. In just six weeks, the new manager has turned Rangers from a team who has become the butt of pantomime comedians into a force once again respected and feared by all.

The Aston Villa and England midfield player, who suffered a double fracture in a pre-season match in Spain, was hoping to have the plaster removed yesterday.

In the second time that Cowans had to postpone his comeback, last night he was hoping to have the cast taken off. But one of his bones had not set correctly and he has been receiving electrical treatment to help knit the bones. Doctors said yesterday that one of his bones had still not mended properly.

Wigan Athletic's attempts to sign the former Manchester United winger Steve Coppell, as a co-manager have suffered a setback. Coppell, whose footballing career was cut short by a knee injury, has opted for a temporary spell on the continent learning coaching and management techniques.

Wigan say it will be three months at the latest before Coppell will discuss his future. The club's chairman, Brian Houghton, is still confident that Coppell will begin his management career at Springfield Park. "He has already said that he would have snapped up our offer if it had come three weeks earlier, so we are prepared to wait," he said.

The mayor of Darlington made a successful eleventh hour intervention yesterday in the bitter rent wrangle between Darlington Football Club and their landlenders, the chairman of Solent Stars, who



Sandwich course: Callandriello of Bracknell is caught between Pramiere (centre) and D'Antoni of Milan (Photograph: Ian Stewart).

## Bracknell's replay in vain

By Nicholas Harling

England were left with only one club in the last four of the men's world invitation club championship, sponsored by Phillips, after the defeat of Bracknell Pirates and Austin Rover Sunderland at Crystal Palace yesterday.

Sunderland went out to the holders, Maccabi Tel Aviv, in the quarter-finals after Bracknell had lost for the second day running to Simac Milan, a first round match which was replayed after the Berkshire club had appealed that Milan's 85-86 victory on Thursday was completed with an illegal throw in the last second.

At the second time of asking Bracknell could have completed an appeal but they were trailing 109-96 to the second seeds Milan, who at first refused to replay the game only to have second thoughts after being told they would be defaulted. They were virtually always in control. The only time they seemed in danger of surprise exit was in the opening 90 seconds when they conceded the first six points and D'Antoni, their American, committed three fouls.

D'Antoni, the central figure in Thursday's controversy, was rested

for a period but then came off the bench to make a major contribution to Bracknell's defence to surprise colleagues with surprising passes and scored 14 points.

Although Lampert and Meneghin were fouled out, Meneghin after earning himself a technical foul for shouting at an official and being provoked into a final offence by Bowden, Milan safely withstood Bracknell's second half rally. Callandriello, almost singlehanded, reduced Bracknell's 16-point deficit to five but Milan's overall shooting was far superior. Bracknell could have done with more of the previous day's inspiration of Bologan and extra consistency from Keenan.

Antoine Carr, Milan's second American, sat out the game. As he had not been able to score when he first came to England because of a flight from Wichita had been delayed, he could not figure in the replay. Milan reluctantly agreed, although the player was stripped and apparently ready for action in size 15 shoes that had been provided by Harry Smith, the chairman of Solent Stars, who

are not playing in the tournament because they could not meet the qualifying conditions.

Carr had mislaid his own aboys but Smith cannot have been pleased to learn that the player was not allowed on court, having driven up from America to compete in the tournament.

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### IN BRIEF

## Citizen La Rocca has cause to celebrate

Capo D'Orlando (Reuter) - Nino La Rocca celebrated the attainment of Italian citizenship and enhanced his claim for a dual chance by knocking out an American, Jack Torrance, in the first round of their welterweight boxing contest here.

The African-born La Rocca never allowed his opponent to land a punch and sent him sprawling after two minutes in the ring. Skilled boxer, a former World Cup downhill race competitor at Springfield Park, Torrance, on January 7, had been transferred to Lausanne, Switzerland, because of a lack of snow. A men's slalom event scheduled for the following day has been retained at Morzine for the time being. La Rocca, in his Swiss, last staged a World Cup race in 1978.

RIFLE SHOOTING: The Great Britain rifle team fly from Glasgow tomorrow for a seven-week tour of Australia and New Zealand. The tour will start with three weeks in

the run-up to the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh.

JAPAN: Miss Ping group Brighton 89, Edinburgh 89, Fleetwood 89, Liverpool 89, Peterborough 89, Preston 89, St Helens 89, Warrington 71, Worthington 89.

NETHERLANDS: Group A Crystal Palace 89, Huddersfield 89, Luton 89, Middlesbrough 89, Newcastle 89, Nottingham 89, Sheffield 89, St Helens 89, Stockport 89, Warrington 89.

NETHERLANDS: Group B Hartlepool 89, Hull 89, Ipswich 89, Luton 89, Middlesbrough 89, Newcastle 89, Nottingham 89, Sheffield 89, Stockport 89, Warrington 89.

NETHERLANDS: Group C Plymouth 89, St Helens 89, Stockport 89, Warrington 89.

NETHERLANDS: Group D Hartlepool 89, Hull 89, Ipswich 89, Luton 89, Middlesbrough 89, Newcastle 89, Nottingham 89, Sheffield 89, Stockport 89, Warrington 89.

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RACING: BREGAWN MISSES MANDARIN CHASE TO WAIT FOR BETTER GOING

By Michael Phillips  
Racing Correspondent

Observe should win the Tote Mandarin Steeplechase at Newbury today, now that Michael Dickinson has decided not to run either Bregawn or Silver Buck. Observe will be wearing blinkers for the first time in public because both Fred Winter and John Francome his trainer and jockey feel that he was "pulling their legs" and not giving his all at Chepstow earlier this month, even though he won that day.

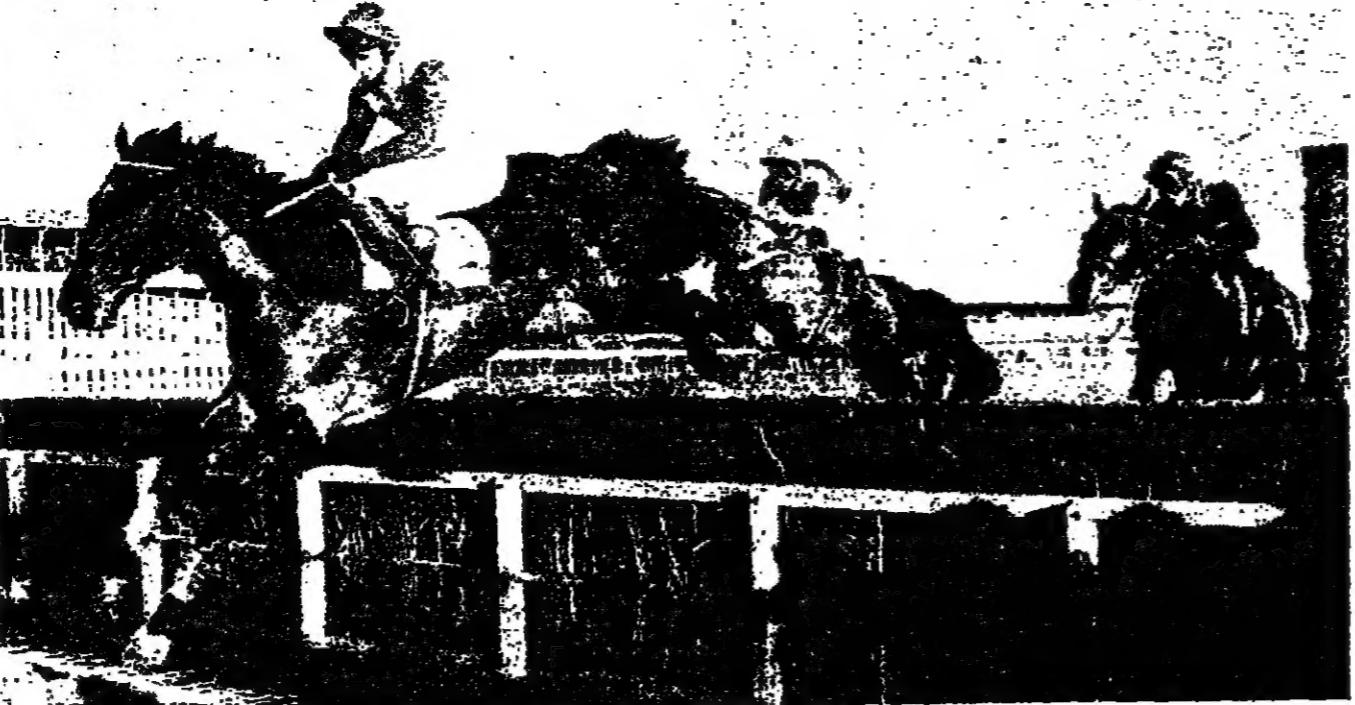
Observe has worn blinkers while jumping the practice fences on the downs above Upper Lambourne and Winter is convinced that they will help him to concentrate and make life easier for Francome.

The distance of today's race will be new to him, but watching him win the Gainsborough Steeplechase over three miles and 118 yards at Sandown Park last February I got the impression that another furlong and a half ought to be well within his compass.

Approaching is the only member of the field who has won over today's course and distance, but he is getting a bit long in the tooth and I doubt him coping with a horse of Observe's age and class, especially as he will be carrying more than his long handicap weight. Bright Dream and Canford Ginger are also badly handicapped, but talking to Josh Gifford at Chepstow on Tuesday after Royal Judgment ran so well in the Welsh National, I got the firm impression that he expects Bright Dream to run well because of the way that he has been going with Royal Judgment at home recently.

Now that Andrew Turnell's horses have hit form with a vengeance Bishop's Bow could be more of a threat to my selection than Straight Jocelyn who has always given me the impression that he is at his best when racing over two and a half miles.

Gratification (1.0) and Spanish Place (3.0) are other possible winners for Francome, who is riding as well as at any time in his illustrious career. Gratification has won all his



Burnt Oak takes the water jump ahead of Roman Bistro and King Ba Ba on his way to victory at Newbury

races over two miles this season, but has given the impression that he will do even better over further and this is precisely what will confront him in Challow Hurdle. He will need to be at his best to cope with State Case, Catch Phrase and Anicee.

Spanish Place, my selection for the Wickham Novices Hurdle, had some good performances on the flat to his name, as indeed did Orange Reef. By all accounts both have shown a marked aptitude for jumping at home.

The field for the L'Oréal Handicap Hurdle includes three who have won it before - Jack O'Lantern, Mr. Moonraker and Great Light. The latter appears to have the best chance of the three now after that encouraging run at Kempton on Monday. However, I still feel tempted to take a chance with the Imperial Cup winner, Desert Hero, who beat Great Light by five lengths in that race at Sandown. Patrick's Fair was

even further behind in fourth place.

After falling in two steeplechases this season when in with a winning chance on each occasion Desert Hero could easily benefit from this switch back to hurdling. Noble Heir, his stable companion, has not run this season, so he could be the one to watch with Schwegges Gold Trophy in mind.

At Newbury yesterday 28 days of misery ended for David Nicholson when he watched Burnt Oak win the Weyhill Handicap Steeplechase. For that was how long it had been since he had had his last winner.

Until then everything had been going swimmingly for the Duke - as Nicholas is known affectionately in racing circles - with 18 winners in November. Nicholas was so worried about the drought that he had blood tests taken from a number of horses, but they revealed nothing.

What Burnt Oak showed was

the sort of spring-heeled jumping and relentless gallop that will stand him in good stead at Liverpool one day. Whether that crack at the National comes next March or the year after remains to be seen.

Hywel Davies is ending the year in a blaze of glory.

Yesterday he landed his third double this week by winning on co-member and Alastor O Mavros. But what is one man's good luck is inevitably another's misfortune and in this instance Davies got the opportunity.

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THE TIMES SATURDAY DECEMBER 31 1983

**Saturday****Television and radio programmes**  
Edited by Peter Davalle**Sunday****BBC 1**

8.35 Inch High Private Eye: American cartoon: 9.00 Saturday Superstore includes a song from Howard Jones; *Rolf Harris in the Coffee Shop*; David Essex and his latest single; and many New Year's Eve bargains. Plus *Wham!*

12.15 *Midlandland*. The line-up is: 12.00 *Football Focus* (soccer highlights of 1983); 12.45 *News headlines*.

12.55 *Newbury 1*: The 1.00 race; 1.10 *Boxing*; the European Bantamweight Championship, from Campobase, Italy; *Feeley v Giorgio*; 1.25 *Racing* from Newbury; the 1.30 race; 1.45 *Sports Round-up*; 1.55 *Football*; 1.58 *2.00 Total* *Menswear* *Harcourt*.

Steepchase; 2.10 *Basketball Preview*, with Kieran Prendiville; 2.25 *Newbury Racing*; the 2.30.

2.50 *Darts*: *Embassy World Professional Championship*, from Stoke on Trent; 3.20 *Basketball*: *Philips World Invitational Club Championships*, from Crystal Palace; 3.30 Half-time scores; 3.55 *Darts* (cont'd); 4.15 *Basketball* (cont'd) 4.35 *Final Scores*.

5.05 *News*: with Moira Stuart, 5.15 *Sport*. And regional news bulletins.

5.20 *Jim'll Fix It*: New Year's Eve special. Mr Savile makes it possible for someone to share the same spritz of ice as Tornil and Dean (but not for skating purposes).

5.55 *The Little and Large Show*: Comedy and music, with guests Russell Grant, Roy Jay, Roy Wood and Status Quo.

6.30 *Film*: *Arabian Adventure* (1979) Arabian Nights-type fantasy, with Christopher Lee as the unscrupulous evil Caliph, hungry for power. Supporting cast includes Milo O'Shea, Oliver Tobias, Mickey Rooney and Peter Cushing. Director: Kevin Connor.

8.05 *Best of British Comedy*: Clips from gems like Hancock's Half-Hour, Dad's Army, Till Death Us Do Part, Porridge, and The Good Life, presented by Frank Muir.

8.35 *Bergères*: Another dramatic episode in the life of a Jersey detective (John Nettles) Why he has to arrest the challenger in an important boxing match. Guest star in tonight's episode: Oliver Colvile, Lee Montague, Tony Osoba and Eva Mortley.

9.30 *News* read by Moira Stuart. And sports round-up. Plus weather forecast for the first day of 1984.

10.05 *Match of the Day*: The best of action from two First Division football matches played today. Also pools check.

10.45 *A Farewell Celebration of The Good Old Days*: The curtain at the City Varieties, Leeds, rises and falls for the last time (on TV). Top of tonight's victory-bill is Frankie Vaughan.

11.45 *Across the Years*: Marian Foster and Eric Robson see the old year out in Manchester, and Keith Chegwin chats with many local folk as the New Year is born.

**TV-AM**

6.25 *Good Morning Britain*: with the Parkinsons (Mary and Michael). Pick of the Week, with Jeni Barnett, at 6.30. News at 7.00 and 8.02. The Parkinsons present their New Year's Eve special, with guests and chat, from 7.00.

8.40 *One Run*: The top video cassettes of 1983.

**ITV/LONDON**

9.25 *E.T. and Friends*: *Magical Movie Visitors*: The strange things that have enthralled many a movie. With Robin Williams. 10.30 *Terrahawks*: Puppets in space; 10.50 *Film*: *The Solid Gold Klondike* (1963). *Modest TV* trailer about a double abduction of an American ambassador, and the President's special adviser, with Lee Majors, Elizabeth Ashley; 12.05 *Cartoons*.

12.15 *World of Sport*. The line-up is: 12.20 *Darts* (Final of the Foster's Draught Brush Matchplay); 12.45 *News* from ITN; 12.50 *On the Ball*: a look back on the 1983 football scene; 1.20 *It'll Be Alright on the Day*: sporting "howlers", sprung bygeman by Denis Norden; 1.40 *Ice Hockey* (Izvestia Prize, from Moscow);

2.10 *Stock Car Racing* live, coverage from Wimbeldon Stadium; 2.30 *Pro Skate '83*: Specialists ice-skating competition from New York, with Roger Cossen, John Curry, and other star skaters; 3.20 *Hot Rod Racing*:

*Winfarnational Gold Cup*, from Wimbeldon Stadium; 3.45 Half-time scores; 4.00 *Wrestling*; 4.45 *Results*.

5.00 *News*: 5.05 *Pop Goes New Year*: the stars include Culture Club, Limahl, Style Council, Tracy Ullman.

6.05 *Game for a Laugh*: A compilation of highlights from the last series, assembled at a New Year's Eve party, at Chelmsford Manor House in Herts.

7.00 *Punchlines*: *Bernie Winters* and Sally James partner tonight's two contestants.

7.35 2-1: *Comedy game show*, hosted by Ted Rogers, with a Garden of Eden theme. Guests include Norman Vaughan, Barbara Windsor, Deryck Guyler and Valentine Dyall.

8.35 *Perfume*: Musical show, with Petula Clark, Paul Jones, John Amis, Ida Blair, Eleanor Bron and Annette Hoffnung et al; 9.35 *News*.

9.40 *Film*: *The Way We Were* (1973) Romantic drama, well written by Arthur Laurents, co-starring Barbra Streisand and Robert Redford (both in excellent form) as the university lovers whose relationship undergoes a dramatic change when their paths cross again after a lapse of some years. With Bradford Dillman, Alan Alda and Vivien Leigh. Directed by Sydney Pollack.

11.50 *The Hoganman Show*: Boisterous entertainment, befitting the night, from the Scottish Television studios in Glasgow. With Andy Cameron, Kenneth McKellar and the Scottish Fiddle Orchestra (100-strong). Followed by *Night Thoughts*.



From Covent Garden - live: Kiri Te Kanawa, Hermann Prey, Hildegard Hirschel and Doris Soffel in *Die Fledermaus* (BBC2, 8.25pm).

**BBC 2**

2.10 *Film*: *The Pride and the Passion* (1957) Tremendously spectacular (but dramatically meager) movie version of C.S. Forester's adventure yarn set in Spain during the Napoleonic war. Cary Grant is the British naval officer who throws in his lot with a guerrilla leader (Frank Sinatra) whose Spanish forces are hauling a monstrous canon across Spain. Our paid to the French. Co-starring Sophia Loren. Directed by Stanley Kramer.

4.20 *Machines in Motion*: Penultimate lecture in Professor Leonard Maunder's series of Christmas addresses to young people at the Royal Institution.

5.20 *World Darts*: Further live coverage of the first-round matches of the Embassy World Professional Championship.

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**CHANNEL 4**

1.50 *Film*: *The Lady with a Lamp* (1951) Anna Neagle as yet another Great Briton. This time, she is Florence Nightingale, in Heriot-Watt's very respectable film about her pioneering nursing service in the Crimean war. With Michael Wilding, Felix Aylmer and Gladys Young.

3.45 *Film*: *Shrek* (1982): Buster Keaton comedy, with the Great Stoneface as a cinema projectionist who imagines himself taking part in the detective thriller he is screening.

4.35 *Unforgettable Swingsong*: Pat Flaherty (Carrington Street's Ellen Turner) introduces more classic discs from the 1920s to the early 1950s. Her guests include Rosemary Clooney and Dennis Lotis.

5.20 *Hot Shoe*: Dancing feet galore, including those of Wayne Sleep, Bonnie Langford, Lesley Collier, Wayne Eagling and Paul Tomkinson.

6.00 *Encounter*: Four bars to the bar stool. How Peter Abrahams, now a Church of England clergyman, conquered the Demon Drink. He and his wife return to Madrid, where he experienced so much alcoholics despair.

6.55 *Richard Chamberlain*: The actor talks about his role in the TV serial version of *Colleen McCullough's* best-seller *The Thorn Birds* that begins on BBC1 next Sunday; 5.55 *News bulletin*.

6.05 *The Holiday Programme*: New series begins, from London to New York by Concorde: holidays in Ibiza and travels around Tayside. Plus details of a holiday competition.

6.40 *Songs of Praise*: from St Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh.

7.15 *The Two Ronnies*: The musical guest is Elaine Paige. Other guest performers: Patricia Braka, Patrick Troughton and April Walker.

8.05 *Film*: *Fame* (1980), the film that spawned the hugely successful TV series. Same cast (more or less). Same plot: the antics of students and staff at the New York High School for the Performing Arts.

9.00 *Film*: *The Music Machine* (1979) Disco musical starring Gerry Sundquist and Patti Boulaye as the young couple who are determined to win a disco talent competition in face of some crooked competition.

10.40 *David Frost's End of the Year Show*: In their individualistic way, celebrities look back on the dying year. They include Denis Norden, Clive James, Alan Coren, John Wells, Diana Dors, Ken Livingston, and instant Sunshine.

12.10 *Fox*: Final episode. The return from New York of Phil (Sam Boland) brings new hope of family unity after many divisions. ft: Closedown.

1.10 *Sgt Pepper*: Phil Silvers up to more tricks in *U.S. Army* ("r"); 12.20 *Weather forecast*.

**BBC 1**

9.00 *Mr Benn*: for the toddlers; 9.15 *Sandie Worsham* from Westcott House Chapel, Cambridge; 10.00 *John Major* from Wimpole Hall, Cambridge, plus flashback to India's World Cup victory; 10.30 *See World* for those with hearing problems; 10.55 *The Edinburgh Military Tattoo*, 1983: Highlights from the heart-thumping spectacle; 12.00 *From Broadway to Birmingham*: Marisol interview; Barry Manilow ("r"); 12.50 *Cartoon*.

1.00 *Under the Blackpool Tower* with Ken Dodd: The comedian gets to know the circus fraternity. He even enters the tigers' cage; 1.45 *News headlines*.

1.50 *Film*: *The Yellow Rolls Royce* (1964). Omious story, but the plot is not clear, about the two very different owners of a super car. Remarkable cast includes Rex Harrison, Shirley MacLaine, Ingrid Bergman, Omar Sharif, Jeanne Moreau and Alain Delon. Director Anthony Asquith.

3.50 *Hot Show*: Dancing feet galore, including those of Wayne Sleep, Bonnie Langford, Lesley Collier, Wayne Eagling and Paul Tomkinson.

4.40 *Aladdin and the Forty Thieves*: Many stars from children's TV programmes take part in this traditional pantomime. They include *Floella Benjamin*, Sarah Greene, Kenneth Connor, Twanyle, John Craven (Palace newscaster) and Kenneth Williams (as Mustapha Drink). Edward Brayshaw plays Abenazar.

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**TV-AM**

7.25 *Good Morning Britain*. The presenter is David Frost. At 7.25, the Archbishop of York presents *A Thought for a Saturday*.

7.30 *Robo-Tots*: Yehudi Menuhin reads *The King, the Cat and the Fiddler*; plus cartoons, the magician Philip Theodore, the snowman-maker Alan Dart, and regulars including Dick and Dodo.

8.30 *Good Morning Britain*: David Frost with his New Year's Day guests. Ends at 9.25.

**ITV/LONDON**

9.25 *Sing a New Song*: baptismal service from Malvern Priory, Baptist Church, Kent; 10.30 *Flute: Sauris and the Magic Flute* (1975) full-length cartoon; 11.55 *Survival Special*: *Stranded on South Georgia*: *Navigation* of this remarkable wildlife film shot in the Falklands (r).

12.50 *Hot Shoe*: Dancing feet galore, including those of Wayne Sleep, Bonnie Langford, Lesley Collier, Wayne Eagling and Paul Tomkinson.

1.00 *Encounter*: Four bars to the bar stool. How Peter Abrahams, now a Church of England clergyman, conquered the Demon Drink. He and his wife return to Madrid, where he experienced so much alcoholics despair.

1.50 *Film*: *The Yellow Rolls Royce* (1964). Omious story, but the plot is not clear, about the two very different owners of a super car. Remarkable cast includes Rex Harrison, Shirley MacLaine, Ingrid Bergman, Omar Sharif, Jeanne Moreau and Alain Delon. Director Anthony Asquith.

3.50 *Hot Show*: Dancing feet galore, including those of Wayne Sleep, Bonnie Langford, Lesley Collier, Wayne Eagling and Paul Tomkinson.

4.40 *Aladdin and the Forty Thieves*: Many stars from children's TV programmes take part in this traditional pantomime. They include *Floella Benjamin*, Sarah Greene, Kenneth Connor, Twanyle, John Craven (Palace newscaster) and Kenneth Williams (as Mustapha Drink). Edward Brayshaw plays Abenazar.

5.15 *Richard Chamberlain*: The actor talks about his role in the TV serial version of *Colleen McCullough's* best-seller *The Thorn Birds* that begins on BBC1 next Sunday; 5.55 *News bulletin*.

6.05 *The Holiday Programme*: New series begins, from London to New York by Concorde: holidays in Ibiza and travels around Tayside. Plus details of a holiday competition.

6.40 *Songs of Praise*: from St Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh.

7.15

